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## INNOCENCE

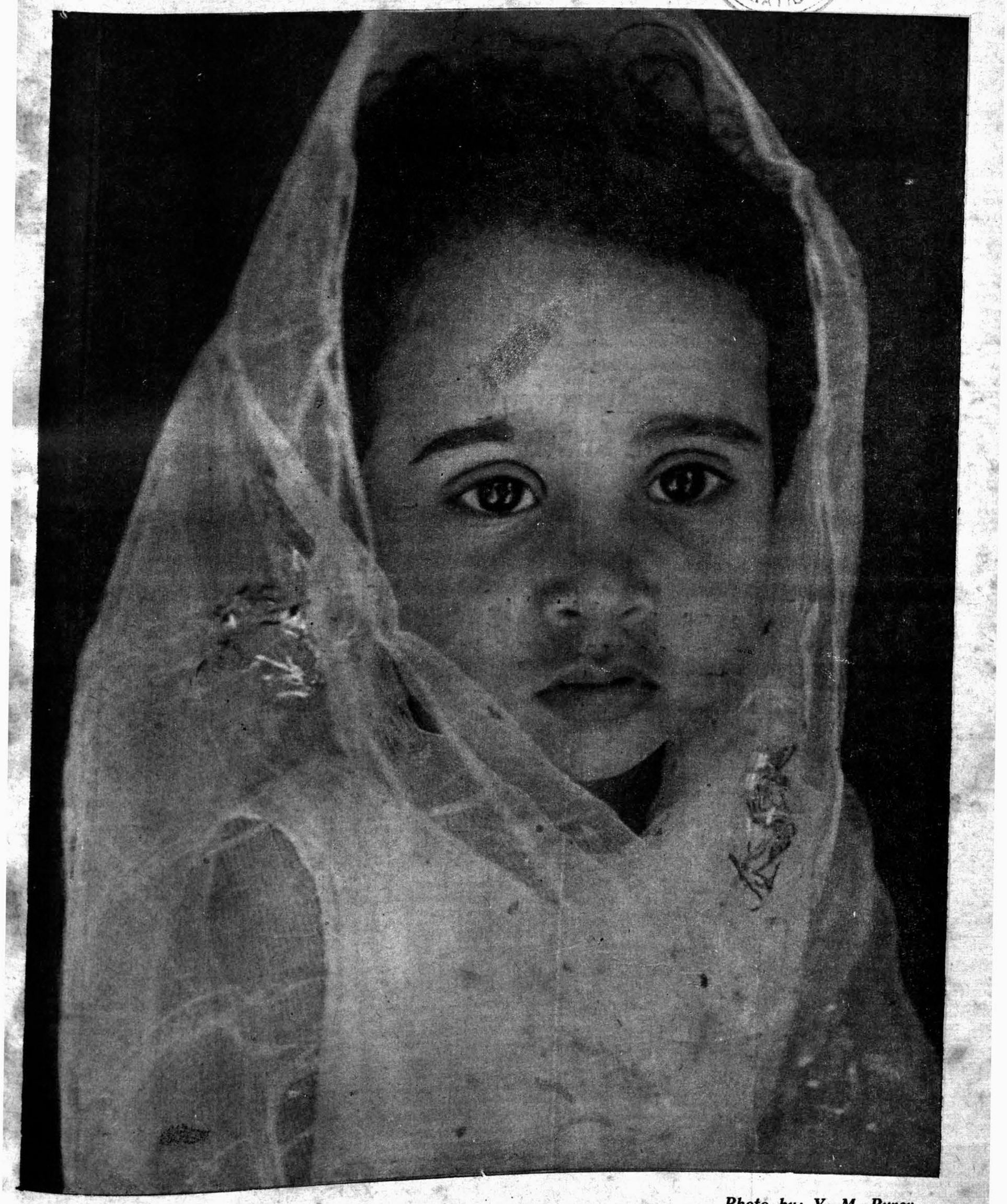


*Photo by: Y. M. Purav.*

## A NIGHT IN THE KREMLIN

—See Page 2

# NIGHT AT THE KREMLIN

## By KSAWERY PRUSZYNSKI
## (in "World Review")

**International correspondents know that the White House, No. 10, Downing Street, the Palazzo Venezia, and even Berchtesgaden are not altogether inaccessible.**

Many journalists have been there, and many still have a chance of seeing the inside of them. To meet Churchill or Roosevelt has always been relatively easy. To be received by Mussolini was not a particularly difficult achievement, and Hitler sees many people. Foreign correspondents know that the most inaccessible spot in earth is neither the Gaurisankar, nor Kilimanjaro, but a small hill on the Russian plain encircled by a sluggish river, separated from the outside world by a mediaeval wall, and full of abandoned churches and deserted palaces. Its name is the Kremlin.

Many journalists visited Berchtesgaden; very few passed the gates of the Kremlin. Very few indeed had even the most casual meeting with that man, one of the most powerful in the world today, the man of a thousand legends, whose name conjures such loyalty and such hate: Stalin.

Mecca and Lhassa may be as inaccessible; but neither of them plays in the modern world a part comparable with that of the old Moscow castle. The Mikado or the Dalai Lama may be as difficult to meet as Stalin; but the Emperor of Japan is no more than a puppet in the hands of military and industrial cliques, while the Dalai Lama is merely a religious ruler of half-nomadic tribes. The personal decisions of the Mikado, or of the Dalai Lama are not likely to have any influence on world affairs; those of Stalin have changed a great deal, and may change more.

### Prologue

No wonder that the entire day of the visit was only a prologue to the great evening. It was a short, icy, December day; but it seemed to go on for ever. Various adjustments of protocol took much time. New regimes seem to attach much more importance to such things than old ones. In the morning we went for a drive through Moscow covered with snow, and scintillating with icicles. The day was fine and sunny, but rather bleak. General Sikorski was taken to the Worobjewski hill, from which Napoleon had looked down on burning Moscow. The great city was spread below, with its smoking factories on the outskirts, and the steely band of the river cutting across it. The city was new with its smoke stacks, and old with its churches. Patrolling aeroplanes soared high above. In the streets I saw barricades far larger than any I had seen in Spain in 1936, in England in 1940, or anywhere else. But they had dust-covers of snow, like disused furniture.

A few minutes before eight o'clock we came down from the general's suite. Cars were waiting in front of the hotel, in complete darkness. The huge streets, recently rebuilt, were quite empty; the town seemed dead, and the blackout was scrupulously observed. The Kremlin appeared to be quite near, and more mysterious, mediaeval and Asiatic than by daylight. The strange, unique outline of its towers, the odd pattern of the walls, seemed to be drawn in sepia on the silvery background of moonlit snow. Our cars flashed along the empty streets, and did not stop until they reached a tall tower, somewhat Gothic in design, a hundred yards ahead of the Kremlin itself: the first gate. We stopped under it and the guards checked our driver's papers carefully. Then powerful torches investigated the inside of the car, slowly, meticulously, sweeping every corner. We drove over a kind of bridge, across the former moat. Then there was another tower, a second gate, and a new inspection, as careful as the first. The silent beams of torches searched the inside of the car for some time. When we started again we heard the roar of the engines of our invisible motor cycle escort, accompanying us like black demon guardians.

### An Orgy Of Light

We were climbing the hill. It only took a few seconds. Then we stopped, and the motor cycles grew silent too. Suddenly huge doors opened in front of us, and a mass of dazzling light hit the darkness. It was an orgy of light! We saw in its blinding glare the great, high stairway of gold and white. A red carpet ran down the middle, like a scarlet river. Globes of light and chandeliers recalled the Paris Opera House. Silent, motionless N.K.D.W. men lined the stairs. We were in the hall of the Bolshoy Dvoriec—the Great Palace of the Kremlin. It was the overture of the spectacle.

Fortunately on both sides of the hall there were cloakrooms, capable of holding the clothes of thousands of people. Their walls were panelled with dark wood, which dulled the glare of the light. The world seemed more normal there! Under a large mirror there were brushes for clothes and for the hair. This struck me, for the custom of laying out brushes was quite English, and seldom practised on the Continent, least of all in Russia. This touch of modern Britain in the grim castle of Ivan the Terrible was most reassuring.

The end of the hall, which overwhelmed us with its lights and proportions, was also quite a relief to our eyes. The Great Palace of the Kremlin has been altered so many times, and has had so many fires, that many of its parts have lost their original character. Catherine the Great, although she made Petersburg her residence, decided to put something of eighteenth-century France into the Byzantine and Oriental shell of the castle. She ordered Bolshov Dvoriec to be rebuilt in the style of the Louis. Later, some other, and less fortunate, additions were also made. The first of the rooms which we entered had been altered much later still, and in better taste, in Stalin's time. It housed the parliament of the Soviet Union.

The old St. Andrew's hall, very long, and oppressively low, wood-panelled, was specially converted for that purpose. There were rows of benches, occupied on the great days by the representatives of the 160 nations known to official Soviet statistics: the Uzbeks, Chvash, Zyrians, Buriats, Moravians, Kazachs. The name of each of the delegates is engraved on a small metal plate, and in front of every seat there is a small loudspeaker, to help in hearing the speeches made at the other end of the room, without using ordinary loudspeakers. The Bolsheviks delight in such gadgets. The Soviet parliament looked rather like some of the luxury hotels in smart resorts, which live only for a few weeks every year, and relapse into a long sleep of many months.

**A Polish writer gives here an intimate and brilliant description of reception given by Stalin in honour of the late General Sikorsky—which itself was an historic occasion in World War II.**

### Bolshoy Dvoriec

We passed through the next rooms so quickly that we would have been unable to find our way back if we had had to. They reminded us in turn of Victorian palace hotels, empty corridors in cold office buildings, and antique drawing-rooms lost in big country houses. The Bolshoy Dvoriec was becoming more magnificent as we went on; the frozen figures of the N.K.D.W. officials in their drab uniforms and softly-treading snow boots of white felt were more numerous. They stared at us with impersonal indifference.

Finally we came under a vast ceiling, full of gilt, colour and light. Huge chandeliers glittered with crystal. The long, white table was covered with glass, silver and red flowers. I caught somewhere a glance of pillars of green marble or malachite. It was a colourful, rich picture, overloaded with glamour. Then I saw over the heads of General Sikorski, Ambassador Kot and General Anders, who led our procession, a small group of men approaching us through a long row of rooms on the opposite side of the banqueting hall.

They walked huddled together—or so it seemed—rather like a gang of workmen coming for a change of shift. Most of them wore dark clothes, so that the figure of a broad man of middle height, in a light suit buttoned up to the neck, stood out at once. A big black moustache, a crop of greyish hair over a broad forehead —Stalin.

### Stalin!

We are always surprised to see that the things we know from a thousand illustrations are just as we expected them to be. Karel Capek was right when he said that we are invariably filled with amazement at seeing a leaning tower in Pisa, gondolas in Venice, and a great arch of triumph in Paris, which prove that the picture postcards did not lie. What is Stalin like? Well, he is exactly like his portraits, of which there are thousands all over Russia, or like himself in Low's cartoons. There is a vast difference between the Soviet Union as it is imagined by people abroad and actual fact; but there is hardly any between the popular idea of Stalin's appearance and the truth. His hair is liberally sprinkled with white, but not his bushy eyebrows and characteristic moustache.

He may be a shade stouter than he appears to be on most of his portraits. I did not see his pipe, but he smoked many cigarettes. What does it matter? Ambassador Kot introduced each of us in turn, and Wyshynski added a few words in Russian. I could not see the introduction of my predecessor very well, so I was quite surprised when the great man shook my hand and simply introduced himself, saying, 'Stalin.' I did not know whether I was supposed to tell him at that point my own name, with which Stalin was likely to be somewhat less familiar than I was with his. The surprise was characteristic of the mixed simplicity and pomp of the evening at the Kremlin.

Then we shook the hands of men whom we had never met before, but whose faces were well-known to us. The portraits of the members of the powerful Polit-bureau, adorning the walls of so many offices between Odessa and Vladivostok, the pictures carried at the head of May-the-First parades, the photographs from the front pages of "Pravda" and "Izvestia"—all came to life, talked and shook each other's hand. All the gods of the atheist Valhalla and of the red Olympus, who appear to the crowd once a year in holy Mecca—Moscow—in the Red Square, at the tomb of the prophet Lenin, were in the room. Hitler could have materially improved his chances if he had scored a direct hit that night. There was Molotov, looking much older than in pictures of himself, and silent, collected Kaganovich in some uniform.

I happened to be near General Anders, who seemed to be the tallest man in the room. He was interpreting the Polish-Russian conversation between Sikorski and Stalin. After a while, Molotov and Wyshynski took charge of General Sikorski, while Stalin began talking to Ambassador Kot.

'....It happened sometimes,' said Stalin, 'that some nations were driven out of their original ancient territories. Take East Prussia. I think that one half of it was inhabited by Poles and the other by Lithuanians..'

### Giant Among Pygmies

Ambassador Kot, obviously referring to the beginning of their conversation, asked Stalin what will happen after the war to the Serbo-Lusitians. They are a Slavonic tribe of several hundred thousand people, living in the centre of Germany, a little north of Czechoslovakia. They are a Slav reserve on old Slav lands which the Germans conquered. In 1919 they were much talked about at Versailles; and the Czechs took a considerable interest in them. But Stalin, even if he knew about these Slavs, did not seem to be particularly interested in their fate. Unfortunately, just when the conversation was promising to take an interesting turn, thanks to Stalin's reference to East Prussia, I was recalled by one of my embassy colleagues. They were putting the finishing touches to a Polish-Soviet declaration of friendship which was being drafted in the next room. I was furious to be put on diplomatic fatigue just when there was a fascinating journalistic job on hand. But then I could never have got there as a journalist, except perhaps in a crowd of hundreds of people.

After returning, however, and before sitting down at the table, I had another good look at the greatest man in that room, and one of the greatest men living. I have always believed that even insignificant details have a certain meaning where a great man is concerned. The old interest in the trifling details of the life of the great, spread once by gossip, and now by the popular press, does not seem to be so futile as we might think it at first. Trifles, mannerisms, habits, may reveal much of a man. Short of other evidence, they may help to build up a picture of character and mind. It is a work of detection and reconstruction of a whole from fragments. I had no better occupation that night than to watch the dictator of Red Russia, and the Kremlin of old Russia. The inaccessibility of both only whetted my curiosity.

I observed Stalin for several minutes. He talked little and quietly. He listened carefully. Now and then he would leave the talking groups and stand aside, alone. He would then light a cigarette, and smoke it alone. He was in a desert of his own. Nobody dared to break his silence or his solitude. Stalin was always the first to end it, with a joke or remark addressed to someone by name. The person so addressed would join him for a short conversation, and then Stalin returned to his guest, Sikorski.

His whole bearing, characterised by the simple introduction with the word 'Stalin', was modest and unpretentious. But he seemed to impress all those around him as a giant would pygmies, or a god mortals. They all saw him without looking at him; they thought about him when talking about something else. One felt that they were all ready to carry out his orders at any moment. Stalin himself looked rather like a man who wishes his thoughts and desires to be guessed before they are formed, instead of having to issue orders. Complete calm, determination ability to shrink from nothing, nothing whatsoever—these were the qualities one could discern in him that evening.

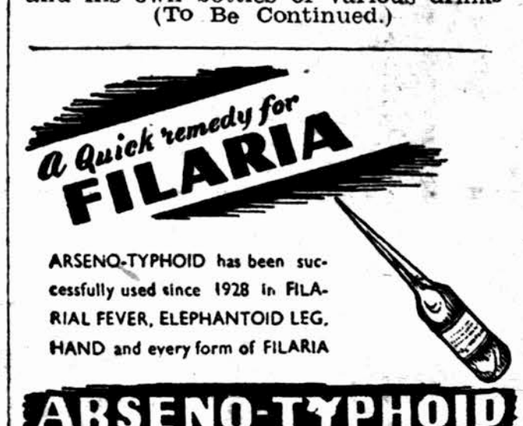
### Clothes And The Man

According to the French, clothes describe the wearer. Stalin was dressed in his usual buttoned-up vest with trousers tucked into big Russian boots. Some things which are unnoticeable in photographs could be observed at close quarters. His clothes, although apparently simple, were very neat. The beige cloth of which they were made was obviously of the finest quality and texture. The trousers, though tucked in, in Russian fashion, were beautifully creased. The boots were very well made. Even his heavy, strong hands were carefully groomed, and had an expression of their own. There was a meticulous finish about it all. One of my friends, who has lived in Berlin, and saw Hitler several times, told me that his clothes looked rather as though he had bought them off the peg, and did not take care to match the different pieces. Nobody could say that about Stalin.

At last we sat down. I easily found the card with my name, for which I looked, with unerring instinct, at the lowest end of the table. Stalin sat at the other end, on the opposite side, so that I could continue my observation. He had on his right General Sikorski, on the left Ambassador Kot, with Molotov opposite.

My neighbours were both Soviet generals, one of them an important figure—General Zukov, serving both in the army and in the N.K.D.W., with whom General Anders had much to do. The table was laid out with rich simplicity. On lovely table cloths of Dutch linen I saw plates belonging to the 'Moskva' hotel which had been placed at our disposition. It was an old pattern of faded grapes and leaves. The trade mark was also the same: Imperial Manufactory of St. Petersburg. Only the Imperial monograms varied. For there were some pieces with the N.II of the last Emperor, surmounted by the crown of the Tzars, and some with A.III, recalling that fearsome bearded giant, Alexander III. In the centre of the table there were old crystal vases, and heavy silver jugs of marvellous workmanship. The table silver, on the other hand, was modern, with the hammer and sickle. In front of each of us there was a long menu in Russian and French. Each guest also had his own tray of hors-d'oeuvres and his own bottles of various drinks.

(To Be Continued.)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# INSULTING CHURCHILL

By IKONOBLAST

After what happened at Brighton the Government should immediately rush through a bill abolishing by-elections.

This habit of voting against the Government is growing, and if it goes on Mr. Churchill, Mr. Attlee, and Sir Archibald Sinclair will simply refuse to risk being insulted by sending letters of recommendation which are ignored by the electors.

Just think that our beloved Prime Minister sent two letters to Brighton telling the electors whom to vote for, and 12,635 electors go to the polling booth and put their crosses opposite the name of the other man.

A miserable majority of 1,959 for the official Tory candidate, "the lowest", says the "Daily Ex-

press", "recorded in this constituency, in the memory of people who have lived here for many years", is a direct slap in the face for Mr. Churchill and for the great Party of which he is the leader.

What right have the people of Brighton to behave in this disgraceful manner?

They ought to be disfranchised every one of them and their M. P. chosen for them by Mr. Churchill and the Conservative Head Office.

Democracy is all right, but when the electors vote for a candidate whose policy Mr. Churchill described as an "attempted swindle", it is going too far.

If this is what happens at Brighton, which used to return Tory M.P.s by 30,000 majorities, what is going to happen in the rest of the country?

If by-elections were abolished for the duration there would be no need for Lord Hartington, the son of the Duke of Devonshire, to have to go to West Derbyshire and to address ignorant voters who may even presume to ask him questions.

Here is a seat which has been regarded as safe for sons of the Duke of Devonshire for generations, and an opposition candidate has the audacity to get nominated.

Why should the Duke of Devonshire and his son, the Marquis, be insulted in this way?

If heirs of dukes cannot be allowed to get seats in Parliament without having to ask votes from every Tom, Dick and Harry, our aristocratic families will refuse to allow their sons to go to Parliament.

In West Derbyshire everything was nicely arranged. The Duke's son-in-law resigned in favour of the Duke's son, who was adopted at a Tory meeting presided over by the Duke himself, a perfect example of democratic procedure, and along comes another candidate to upset everything.

As a descendant of a Duke himself, Mr. Churchill will leave the electors in no doubt as to how he would vote if he were an elector in West Derbyshire.

Mr. Ernest Brown's advice to Liberals is to vote for the Duke's

candidate, and Socialists will be expected to roll up to vote for the future Duke too.

Under the Party truce Socialists are expected to vote Tory, even if the candidate is a half-wit. Your duty is not to ask whether the National Government candidate has brains or character, but whether he has the coupon.

There are even people who have dared to criticise the letter that Mr. Churchill sent to Brighton.

Mr. A. J. Cummings, in the "News Chronicle", went so far as to say:—

"The letter bears signs of that childish streak in Mr. Churchill's mental make-up which has been

in evidence scarcely at all since the war began. Even many of his Tory supporters think it was a mistake to intervene in this personal way in a Parliamentary by-election."

This is enough to make Mr. Churchill's son-in-law, Vic Oliver, challenge Mr. Cummings to a duel.

"A childish streak in Mr. Churchill's mental make-up" indeed

Is this the reward that Mr. Churchill gets for having gone round the country making the V sign and waving his hat on the top of a stick in England's finest hour?

Not only should Mr. Churchill send letters to Tory candidates in danger, but he should go down to the by-elections on polling day and wave his hat on his stick for all he is worth.

I am confident that if he had

done that at Brighton "attempted swindle" candidate would have lost his deposit.

But there is only one way that the Government can be absolutely sure of keeping Tory seats. That is by abolishing by-elections and letting the Tory Head Office choose the candidate

It could be done democratically by writing his name on a paper and letting Mr. Churchill take it out of his hat.

It cannot be made clear enough that if you wish to save democracy you must vote for the man with the Churchill coupon every time.

If you wish to insult Mr. Churchill, all you have to do is to put a cross opposite the name of the other candidate.

Thus if Mr. Churchill is not to receive 12,000 insults every time there is a by-election, there is only one way out of the dilemma, that is to have no election at all.

Now that Cabinet Ministers like Mr. Ernest Brown have decided to speak at by-elections in order to save the situation for the Government, other Cabinet Ministers will have to take to the hustings too

Mr. Ernest Brown can hardly be expected to win by-elections when he could not manage to keep his own joo in the Cabinet, and heavier orational guns will have to go into action.

It is clear that something drastic must be done if the Conservative Party and Democracy is to be saved.

If I were Mr. Churchill and I did not get a unanimous vote at the next by-election, I would just go and hand in my resignation to the King.—'Glasgow Forward.'

# Japs Adopt Nazi Methods In East Indies

By JOSEPH KALMER

On March 8, 1944 the second anniversary of the occupation of Java, the Japanese military authorities published a report on their administration. Noteworthy features in it are a certain candour, paucity of information and a heap of palpable lies.

The report acknowledges that the main tasks of the administration were maintenance of public security and increase in war production. Kazuo Acki, Japanese Minister for Greater Asia, laid down a plan for these purposes immediately after the occupation of the islands. This plan was carried out without the slightest consideration for the needs of the inhabitants of the Netherlands Indies.

Representatives of the Dutch Indies Government who are now in Australia recently gave an account of the situation which is of some interest.

## Jap Propaganda Fails

What the Japanese are chiefly aiming at is to make the Indonesians feel and believe that they have been "liberated" and that they are now masters of their own fate. This propaganda of Tokyo politicians has failed utterly because the brutality of the Japanese soldiery—who in actual fact control the Netherlands Indies—has wrecked Tokyo's plans in this respect. What the Gestapo does for Nazis in Europe is done by Kempeitai in the Netherlands Indies. This is the Japanese military police force which has become the chief instrument in the administration of the Far Eastern islands.

In order to give the local people the impression of independence, a central administrative body was set up in October, 1943. Its members, however, are not elected by the 60,000,000 Javanese but by the Japanee military administration. Of course, the Japanese have only nominated persons on whose co-operation they think they can rely. This Council of local people does not possess even advisory powers. Upto the present it has only met twice—in October, 1943 and in March, 1944—then merely to receive meekly the Japanese military commander's orders.

All that Japanese propaganda had to say regarding its activities was that it had paid a tribute to the Japanese army for its heroic deeds and that all items on the agenda had been dealt with These items apparently concerned the need for an increase in the production of foodstuffs air raid precautions and measures against espionage in shops and factories.

Food production, like every other kind of production is regulated on Nazi lines Organisations of the authoritarian type have been set up to reduce all religious communities to a uniform pattern. It is worth noting, for instance, that Muslims have been forbidden to observe their month's fast because this would impair their capacity for work and consequently interfere with war production.

Tea and coffee planting has been very largely stopped This means immense loss for many years to come, because tea and coffee bushes take years of growth before they yield crop. Thus the Netherlands Indies have been deprived of two of their most important export products. Jute and rice are being cultivated on the devastated tea and coffee plantations.

In peacetime rice was the chief article of export of the Dutch East Indies. Now, it costs—for local inhabitants—five times as much as it did before the war where as the Japanese buy it at its pre-war price for their army and for export. which is tantamount to confiscation. The Japanese export so much that in Java, for instance, which formerly exported from 150,00 to 240,000 metric tons yearly the daily ration of all foodstuffs has been reduced to eight ounces, of which only a third consists of rice Another third is constituted by Soya beans and the rest by Cassava roots, a kind of potato. Even rubber, of which the Japanese have such large quantities in south-eastern Asia, cannot be used or exported for lack of shipping.

## Categorical Answer

The little that remains of inland and export trade is being more and more concentrated in Jap. hands. Traders require a licence from the military authorities who thus control everything. Banks have been put entirely under Japanese management. The economy campaign that was launched among the local inhabitants only benefits the Southern Regions Development Bank which, again, does nothing for the economic development of those territories. In 1943, for instance, this bank 'lent' to the Japanese Government 7,000 million yen.

## Forced Labour

Manpower in the southern territories has been mobilised entirely for agriculture and war industries. Roads are being built by forced local labour. Men are called up by local Japanese military commanders, and the methods applied may best be gauged from the text of one of these mobilisation orders. It says: "Those who do not come immediately will be fetched by Japanese soldiers and will be punished. This punishment will be either light, namely, be half beaten to death or heavy, namely, be beheaded."

SIRDAR J. J. SINGH CARRIES ON

# A One-Man Campaign For India In Washington

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.

Washington's professional lobbyists are simply flabbergasted by the near-miracles that Sirdar J. J. Singh, President of the India League of America, has been performing around here lately, writes Charles V. Devander and William O. Player in "Washington Memo."

Three months ago, Singh was hanging around the Hotel Claridge in Atlantic City with his hat in his hand, desperately trying to buttonhole some delegates who might be interested in asking the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, then in conference there, to do something about the famine in India.

J. J. SINGH
Sirdar

He finally succeeded in having the issue raised, though not on the conference floor; but the United Kingdom succeeded in knocking it down again and the Council Chairman, U. S. delegate Dean Acheson, tried to give it a kiss of death in the final speech of the sesssion.

But Singh tenderly bundled up the remains of his cause, hustled it to Washington, and—through one of the most persistent, inspired and naively skillful campaigns that any one man ever put on here—apparently is about to win over no less an advocate than Congress itself!

He failed, at first, to sell his aid-to-India idea to the House Foreign Affairs Committee during hearings on a joint resolution authorizing U. S. participation in U.N.R.R.A., but got Rep. Mundt (R.S.D.) to carry the fight to the floor. There an amendment recommending that U.N.R.R.A. aid any needy friendly nation involved in the hostilities—not merely the "liberated areas" originally prescribed—was overwhelmingly adopted .And that, of course, included India.

At hearings before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the amendment wasn't even challenged and the committee voted a favourable report to-day.

Thus, unless unexpectedly strong isolationist opposition to the whole U.N.R.R.A. proposal developes on the Senate floor, it looks as though the resoluton, the amendment and one-man lobby Singh are going to come through with flying colours.

## *SENATORS APPROVE RESOLUTION*

The Washington correspondent of "New York Times" writes in the issue of February 15:—

Senator Guy M. Gillette, Democrat, of Iowa, registered the only negative vote as the Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved to-day the resolution activating the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, 16 to 1. The measure in schedule to come up for action on the Senate floor on Wednesday. It carries an authorization of $1,350,000,000 to be appropriated.

**As it passed the committee, the legislation, already adopted by the House, retained the amendment sponsored by Representative Karl Mundt, Republican, of South Dakota, under which India's famine-stricken areas are admitted to the benefits of U.N.R.R.A.**

The only other alteration made in the resolution was a deadline established for its existence. Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, Republican, of Michigan, submitted an amendment providing for its expiration on June 30, 1946.

Senator Gillette said that his opposition was based on the fact that the relief provisions were contained in an agreement rather than a treaty.

The Council of U.N.R.R.A., Mr. Gillette added, on which the United States has only one vote, is empowered to amend the agreement, which he contends is equivalent to authorizing an appropriation of $1,350,000,000 without retaining control over the expenditures.

Senator Gillette emphasized his belief in and sympathy with the objectives of the legislation.

J. J. Singh, President of the India League of America, said in an interview that the Central Legislature of India would meet this week in New Delhi to take up the matter of India's participation in U.N.R.R.A. and to vote on the dol. 35,000,000 which was assigned as that country's contribution for the purpose.

Recent reports from the famine territory, Mr. Singh said, indicated that the extremity of the situation had passed and that imperative needs in the provinces most severely afflicted. Assam and Bengal, were for medicines rather than food.

As many as forty ships have arrived at Indian ports from Australia, he declared, with spare cargo space in which wheat could have been transported, but none was sent. The winter crop of wheat, however, relieved that situation, and consequently the great hope now is for medicines for cholera, typhoid fever and malignant malaria.

## *U. N. R. R. A. AND INDIA*

"Washington Post" wrote:—

Two-fisted Representative Karl Mundt of South Dakota, an isolationist of pre-Pearl Harbour days, had to fight an uphill battle with the State Department before he put the "India" amendment into the U.N.R.R.A. bill giving the starving Indian people a chance to get United Nations relief.

Representative Sol Bloom of New York and other Administration leaders were for railroading an U.N.R.R.A. bill which would have excluded India from direct post-war relief. So when Mundt tried to include India in the bill while it was being considered inside the House Foreign Affairs Committee, he was voted down, even though he offered to bring former Assistant Secretary of War, Louis Johnson to tell of the intense suffering in India as a result of the war.

Then, hoping to head off the Mundt amendment on the floor, Bloom called a secret meeting of the Foreign Affairs Committee to reconsider the India question. At this meeting, he was surprised to discover that Representative James P. Richards, of South Carolina, and others had switched their positions.

"I voted against the Mundt amendment when we considered it some weeks back", Richards told Bloom, "but I've changed my position because of some facts that have been brought to my attention recently. If a country contributes dol. 35,000,000 to the UNRRA fund, as India has offered to do, it should share in the benefits."

Though Britain and, consequently, our State Department, were originally opposed to including the starving people of India in the UNRRA appropriation, India will now be entitled to a full share of Allied post-war relief, as well as a voice in UNRRA councils.

# WHY THIS SCARCITY OF NEWSPRINT?

## *India Must Follow Canada's Example*

By ST. NIHAL SINGH

There are two aspects to this—to any newspaper. There is, firstly, the print—the matter in type that engages and, if the writer is fortunate, holds the reader's attention. There is, secondly, the newsprint—the substance that the reader holds in his hands. Its surface bears the impression, left behind by inked, machine-set type bedded in the rotary, or sometimes the flatbed, press.

What reader ever bothered about the paper used for the production of a vehicle of news-dissemination or an organ of opinion? If it were dirty, grey or grown in hue, the fastidious subscriber might grumble. If the fabric was of the kind that made the ink spread so that the print was messy to look at and hard to read, the purchaser might register a protest.

Ordinarily, however, if the newsprint was any one's "headache" (to use a term still fresh from the war-god's forge) it was the producer's. He must see to it that the supply did not run short and that it was secured at a cheap—a very cheap rate. The paper could not otherwise be retailed at one anna (or its equivalent, a penny) the copy—the almost universal figure in recent pre-war years

The sanguinary struggle raging from the fringes of the old almost to the frontiers of the New World, have made the newspaper readers news-print-conscious. He has to pay more and receive less. His favourite daily has fewer pages. It weighs less. The newsprint is flimsier—more brittle. It does not bear rough handling. It tears at the least touch.

### The Permanent Cause

The proximate cause is the war. Many of the men who used to be engaged in the manufacture of newsprint are now fighting or engaged in feeding the fighters or feeding the guns. Many of the "bottoms" in which paper was transported from Sweden or New Foundland, Canada of the United States of America to one or another Indian port and thence lorried or railed to our printing presses, are no longer available for rendering this service.

Beneath the surface of things lies, however, the permanent cause. The distressing acute shortage of newsprint is the product of our complacency mated to our politico-economic insufficiency.

We go short of newsprint not because we must, but only because, content with our abject dependence upon outside supplies, we will not bestir ourselves to manufacturing effort. Had Nature been mean to us and denied us the means to help ourselves, there might have been some excuse for this.

She, however, has been kind—even indulged. She has given us, in bumper measure, materials similar to those that elsewhere in the world are put into the pulp-pot and, with very little expense of energy and certainly at very low cost, are converted into paper that, run on reels, feed printing presses in newspaper establishments.

Our indifference and inefficiency leave these materials untapped. Therein lies the tragedy of the situation

When times are normal and the currents of commerce are undisturbed, the newspapers are large. The editors have plenty of space to fill them with attractive "features". in addition to purveying the news and commenting upon happenings at home and abroad. When the enemy plays havoc with shipping and the god of war commandeers most of the available bottoms cleaving the seven seas, we have to go short of newsprint. The chronicle of current events has to be compressed; the 'background information" squeezed out. Our people, most of them woefully behind the times, are intellectually all the poorer.

### A Caller's Service

A caller who interrupted the flow of this thought, at this point, as I was dictating this article, unwittingly rendered me a great service, by asking:

"Excuse me for enquiring. You say you were doing an article about newsprint shortage. Do they (in Europe and America) not make newsprint out of wood?"

"Yes, my young friend, you are accurately informed", I said to him, a little impatient at the time he had chosen for making his call.

"Aren't there woods right yonder (pointing to the hills that rim my residence in Dehra Dun round in a horseshoe) and forests in many other places in India? Then why do we not manufacture our own newsprint?"

"The reason as explained to me is", I replied, "that most of the forests that lie right around us do not yield the kinds of wood that can be turned into paper upon which newspapers can be printed and yet the cost be kept low. The last clause—the economic clause—is the ruling, or rather the overruling consideration in the matter."

"That sounds like a conundrum", he said, puzzlement writ large on his face, "something like which came first, the hen or the egg."

"It isn't, really—not when a slight explanation is vouchsafed in respect of it"

"The materials that are easily accessible to the paper-maker can be—and as a matter of fact some of them are—utilized by him. The paper that they can—and do—yield is, however, of a finer substance and quality than that used in the newspaper printing trade. Apart from substance and quality or rather because of them, it costs more—some of it much more—prohibitively so—than newsprint.

"The cost is run up because of the processes to which the woody materials easily accessible to our paper-makers must be subjected. These processes call for the use of chemicals. The chemicals are needed for driving the "hardness" out of the wood—breaking down the physical structure and for removing the gummy substances that Nature, in her laboratory, employs to bind together living particles inside the bark.

"Chemicals are also required for another purpose. We like our newspapers to be printed upon white paper—the whiter it is the better pleased are we with its appearance and the easier we find our daily or weekly to read. Unfortunately, the pulpwood that can be had in India easily and economically has colour, principally green or brown. To take out this dye-matter, 'bleaches' are needed. These 'bleaches' are made, to be sure, in chemical works run on a commercial scale: but the more efficient they are the more they cost. The whiter the paper required, the greater the quantity and also efficiency of the chemicals the paper-maker must use

"In the countries from which we import newsprint, now in minute quantities and in the semi-piping days of peace betwixt this and "World War Number one', is made from woods that do not need to be processed in this expensive fashion. They are, to begin with, 'soft'. Chemicals are not, therefore, needed to take the 'hardness' out of them. The pulpwood there, moreover, does not have much dye in it that needs to be bleached out."

### Canada's Lead

In Canada, for instance. Nearly 40 years have elapsed since my first visit to the Land of the Maple Leaf. How impressed was I with the shrewd money-sense displayed by the lessees of Crown forests and the exploiters of privately owned ones. Logs that could be converted into timber for house construction and like purposes were sent to the lumber (the North American term for timber) mill. Odds and ends and saplings that had fallen in the course of felling the big trees were set aside for pulping.

The ideal was to save expense on haulage by reducing these pieces to pulp on the spot. During my last visit to Canada I observed that this ideal had become almost the universal practice.

Pulping plants have been put down in the forests. These are situated near never-failing water courses. Not only is the water utilized for softening the wood, but also for furnishing power to turn the wheels.

The process is quite simple. The logs and boughs are barked and cleaned. The sticks are placed against the surface of a revolving grind-stone parallel to its axis. Water pressure is used to hold them rigidly in position. As the stone revolves and grinds the wood into tiny shreds, the pulpy substance is washed away, borne over the brest of continuously running water and swept into a reservoir.

As water does the grinding, softening and washing of the wood, the process is exceedingly cheap. As the whole work is done by machinery, the

(Continued On Page 9)

# IMPHAL IN 'STATE OF SIEGE'. HITS BACK

## Eden Will Stick On

### No Immediate Changes In Cabinet

LONDON, April 8.—Reuter learns officially that Mr. Churchill has no immediate intention of making changes in the British Government. Mr. Anthony Eden will remain Foreign Minister at any rate for the time being.

It is known that the Prime Minister had contemplated relieving Mr. Eden of the Foreign Ministry, so that he could concentrate on his other post of Leader of the House of Commons, but this week further consideration has been given to the matter, and Mr. Churchill has now decided to postpone any reconstruction of the Cabinet.

Two impending International Conferences of first rank importance strengthen the decision to make no change in the supreme direction of Britain's foreign policy. One is the meeting of Mr. Edwar Stettinius, United States Under Secretary of State, and his diplomatic and economic colleagues with representatives of the British Government. The other will be the Conference of the Dominion Prime Ministers to be held in London shortly.—Reuter.

## PATRIOTS ADVANCE

### Pitched Battles With Germans In Western Bosnia

LONDON, April 8.

The Germans are massing troops from all parts of Serbia to stem the advance of Yugoslav Patriots, said Marshal Tito's "communique" to-day.

Patriots advance is at Ivan Jica and in the valley of River Ibar. "Our units are waging incessant battles on Mount Kosmaj in the neighbourhood of Arandjelovac in Serbia" the "communique" states.

"In Western Bosnia, our units continue to wage pitched battles against German troops on the Mrkonpicgrad sector. After three days fighting, the enemy succeeded in penetrating into the village of Petke ten miles south of Mrkonjicgrad. Our units struck at the flank of the enemy cutting off the main German forces from Mrkonjicgrad. Our units attacked Mihailovichs Chetniks in the vicinity of Prijedor throwing them back to Prijedor."—Reuter.

STOCKHOLM, April 8: 5 000 Hungarians have gone over to Marshal Tito's army bringing arms and equipment for half a division. A full battalion of Slovenes carrying first class arms also went over.—Reuter.

## CLASHES IN ANZIO BRIDGEHEAD

### Slight Improvement In Allied Positions

Reuter's special correspondent at the advanced Allied Hqs. in Italy:

The Allies have established a new strongpoint in the north central sector of the Anzio bridgehead perimeter north-west of Padiglione and slightly improved their positions.

An American patrol took a position during one of the recent frequent clashes along perimeter. It was a particularly bitter clash in which the Americans fighting at close range tossed grenades into the midst of the Germans defending the position.

Alhed tanks artillery and mortars have been active along the whole beachhead line.—Reuter.

## Move To Call A.-I. Nationalist Muslim Conference

NEW DELHI, April 8.

As a result of discussions held here for over a week among Mr Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim, former U. P. Minister, Sheikh Abdul Majid Sindhi, former Sind Minister, Mr Zahiruddin, President of the All-India Momin Conference, Mr. Mohammad Ahmad Khan, M.L.A. (Central), Moulana Abdul Syed, President of the All-India Jamiat-Ul-Ulema, Dr Ansari, General Secretary of the A. I. Azad Muslim Board, Mufti Khifayatullah and Moulvi Bashir Ahmad it has been agreed to summon a larger gathering of prominent Nationalist Muslims from all over India in Delhi on 6, 7 and 8th May to consider the situation in the country and decide upon a proper lead to be given to Muslims in the present circumstances.

Invitations will shortly be issued by Dr. Ansari.—A. P.

## Over 6,000 Jap Casualties In Frontier Clashes

### JAPANESE ACTIVE IN KOHIMA AREA

NEW DELHI, April 8.

*Already, it is estimated, about 6,000 casualties have been inflicted on the Japanese on the Assam-Burma front.*

*At least three thousand have been killed, and while it is usual to estimate at least twice as many have been wounded, in the case of the Japanese, the proportion of wounded, may possibly be lower, writes an Associated Press of India Special Correspondent at the SEAC Headquarters.*

This gives an indication that the strength of the enemy in the Central Sector area is considerably larger than that in the Arakan recently when the total Japanese strength engaged was about 15,000. But there is still no sign of any major attack on any of the key points. Only Kohima is imminently threatened, although here no important engagement has been reported.

Imphal, the greatest prize, and where in effect a state of siege exists because of the cutting of the Imphal-Kohima road, is hitting back fiercely at any move the Japanese make. Troops in the outposts in the northern sector overlooking the plain have driven the enemy from positions where they have been keeping observation on the plain for some days.

It is obvious that the enemy's timetable has been thrown completely out of gear by the stubborn delaying actions met all along the line and by the great performance of the 17th Division.

Other than attacking the key towns and gaining full possession of the roads, the Japanese effort can now be of little else than nuisance value. —A.P.

### Japanese Active In Kohima Area

NEW DELHI, April 8.

On the Arakan front, in the area south-west of Buthidaung, our operations on the 7th April were particularly successful, say to-day's Allied war 'communique' issued from the Headquarters, South-East Asia Command. An English battalion captured an important village position inflicting heavy casualties. To the east of this action, a counter attack which developed on the front of an Indian battalion was held, the enemy being driven off in confusion.

On the coastal plain south of Maungdaw, our patrols pushing out from Alethangyaw also inflicted casualties. In the Kaladan Valley, West African troops are completing the mopping up of the area south-east of Kaladan village.

There was no important activity on the Imphal Tiddim road. Our operations against the enemy lines of communications west of the Chindwin continue.

In the Northern sector of the hills overlooking the Imphal plain, our troops improved their positions, driving the enemy from an important feature and occupying another position which had been abandoned by the enemy. It was revealed that an air attack on the latter position had caused fifty casualties to the enemy.

The enemy continues to be active on the Kohima area but no important engagement has taken place.

Chinese forces in the Upper Mogaung valley continue their attack on Wakawng and on Japanese positions east and west of that village. On the east flank, Chinese units have contacted the enemy east of Shaduzup.

Medium bombers, dive-bombers, fighter-bombers and fighters of the Tactical Air Force, Eastern Air Command, in daylight on 6th and 7th April were out in strength bombing and strafing objectives in Northern Burma. In these attacks in support of ground troops, enemy troops, gun positions, supply and dump areas and communications were among the targets. There were large explosions and many fires. Widespread fires broke out among oil drums in the Manywet district, and there were three direct hits on a radio station south-west of Mogaung.

Medium bombers of the Strategic Air Force on the night of 6/7th April attacked railway targets at Bassein and Hanzada.

Fighters, fighter-bombers and dive-bombers of the Tactical Air Force on 6th and 7th April attacked objectives in the Arakan, Kaladan, Chin Hills, Chindwin Valley and North-west Burma.

In their offensive against communications in South Burma, long range fighters damaged from four locomotives and tore up a section of the railway line.

From all these operations, one Allied aircraft is missing—A.P.

### Times Editor Urges Quick Defeat Of Japanese In Manipur

NEW YORK, April 7.

Hanson Baldwin, New York "Times" military editor, said that Japan has suffered several defeats in recent months due to Allied attacks in the Pacific, but that "though shaken, Japan is far from finished. The limited invasion of India shows that", Baldwin continues:

"Japanese operations around Imphal, in Manipur state, across the central Burma frontier, show some signs of slowing down in the past days as British resistance is strengthened. But it is amply evident that the enemy hasn't yet been stopped. A definite threat to Imphal, Kohima and Dimapur, above all to the Bengal-Assam railway, still exists.

"This Japanese drive is and always has been more than a diversion, although probably it had a diversionary effect on Allied operations in northern and southern Burma.

"These enemy operations haven't yet accomplished their primary objective of cutting the important supply railway to Assam. But the enemy has cut supply roads to Imphal; he is close to Kohima and threatening Dimapur, an important railway and road junction.

"Moreover, Japanese troops are now on Indian soil.

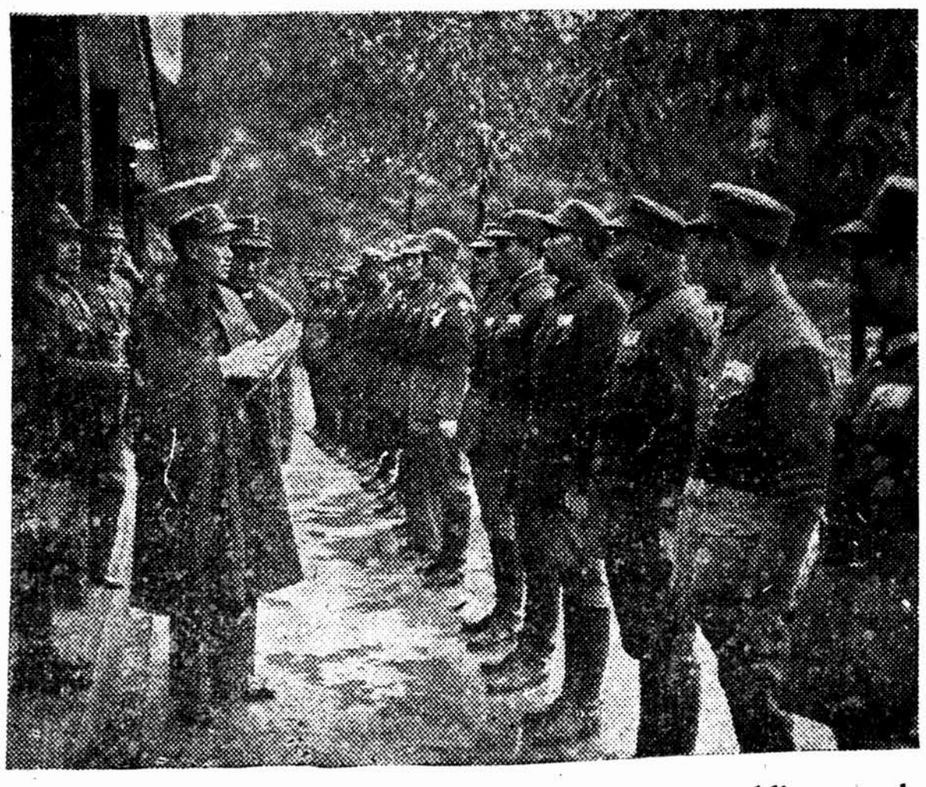
"Politically, but especially militarily, the sooner Japan's invading army can be turned into a smashed and retreating one, the better."—USOWI.

### U. S. Planes Bomb Targets In Marshall Islands

WASHINGTON, April 7.—Liberator bombers dropped 44 tons of bombs on Wake Island during Wednesday night, it is officially announced.

Large explosions were observed in storage areas, and the area devoted to repair and maintenance of aircraft. Mitchell bombers also started large fires on one of the airfields on Ponape Island.

Four Japanese positions in Marshall Islands were also bombed and strafed by planes of the Fleet Air Wing. All the planes returned.—Reuter.



Marshal Chiang Kai-Shek talking to Chinese soldiers under training.

## Japanese Tanker Sunk

### Allied Air Attack On Timor And New Britain

Allied Headquarters, South-West Pacific, April 8:—

An oil laden Japanese tanker was sunk, and a 7,000 ton cargo ship set on fire in yesterday's (Friday) Allied air attacks which ranged from Timor to New Britain.

General MacArthurs 'communique' to-day (Saturday) says that the tanker was sunk in a low level attack by Allied aircraft off Semaoe Island in the Timor area, where two barges were sunk and four others left blazing. In diving and bombing attacks, Allied fighters scored direct hits on a 7,000-ton cargo ship off Wewak leaving it in flames. Eight barges and a coastal vessel were also sunk by Allied aircraft in the Alexishafen area. In the night, bombers started fires and explosions.—Reuter.

## ODESSA ISOLATED

### Red Army On City Beaches

MOSCOW, April 8.

Reuter's staff correspondent cables:

Odessa is now virtually isolated on all land approaches after a swift Soviet advance up to the neck of the Dniester estuary almost due west of the port. The Red airforce is pounding the ferryline link with the rear across the Estuary which has become all but useless with Soviet artillery within easy range to the north.

Germans now withdrawing to the city are fighting yard by yard and the Russians are expected to establish soon a complete arc from the west to the eastern outskirts by driving down towards the mouth of the Dniester and reaching the Black Sea west of the city.

Red Army is already on the Odessa beaches to the east.

The general assault on Odessa may now begin at any time. The Germans are reported to have a strong all-round defence system partly adapted from old Soviet fortifications which served so well during the German-Rumanian 1941 siege of the port.—Reuter.

LAND SIEGE OF ODESSA BEGINS

MOSCOW, April 8.

(Special Dispatch from Reuter's Special Correspondent)

The Red Army's land siege of Odessa has begun.

Everything is ready tonight for a general assault on the great Black Sea Port whose population before the German invasion compared with that of Madras. After the phenomenal Red Army advance over one hundred miles of a sea mud in a fortnight, the German Rumanian garrison is cut off. Round the Soviet perimeter less than ten miles from the city, the advancing Russian soldiers can see the white houses they had evacuated 30 months ago. —Reuter.

### U. P. Defence Savings Drive To Be Abandoned

LUCKNOW, April 8.

At a press conference this morning at the Government House His Excellency the Governor announced that the Defence Savings Drive should be abandoned in view of the recent untimely rains which damaged crops in certain parts of the province. The food situation of the province was also reviewed. The loss that had fallen on the province was undoubted widespread and in some districts serious but it was not such that there need be any apprehension of famine, His Excellency concluded.

All Advisers, the Chief Secretary, the Commissioner of the Lucknow Division, and the Director of Agriculture were also present.—United Press.

## CONGRESS FLAG CASE ACCUSED WIN APPEAL

KARACHI, April 8.

Holding that the act of offering Congress flags for sale did not bring into hatred the Government established by Law, the District Judge of Hyderabad has acquitted five persons who had been convicted by a lower court.

The charge against the accused was that on 26th January last, the celebration of which as Independence Day was prohibited, by the Government they had sold Congress flags in the bazar.

The Magistrate had held them guilty of forming an unlawful assembly under the terms of the notification as their common purpose was a political one.

The District Judge in reversing the lower court's order held that there was no sufficient interval between the publication of the notification and the alleged offence and that the mere fact that shop-keepers were approached to buy flags was no offence.—A. P.

## STOP PRESS

STALIN'S "ORDER OF THE DAY"

MOSCOW, April 8.—The Red Army has reached the Czechoslovak-Rumanian frontier, says Marshal Stalin in an Order of the Day to-night.—Reuter.

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# The Assembly Adjourns!

(From Our Special Correspondent)

NEW DELHI April 3.

The Central Assembly was at its best a second time during last week, when discussion on Baluchistan Resolution was resumed. The Congress Party had promised to support the resolution and was present in the House in full force. The resolution was sponsored by the Muslim League and its Deputy Leader, Liaquat Ali Khan, spoke at length arguing out the case for self-Government for Baluchistan. As a matter of fact, he had only asked for a committee of enquiry to suggest what steps were necessary to set the Baluch on the way to self-rule

The resolution was generally supported. The No. 2 of the Congress party, Mr. Abdul Qayum, told the House what 'jirgas' were and how they administered justice

## The Flea In The Pajama

The Bombay Baronet, Cowasji Jehangir, the Labour Leader, Joshi and Mrs. Subbaroyan were all for the introduction of reforms in Baluchistan. Sir Cowasji, amidst laughter, detailed a story, which he said, was largely responsible for the reforms in N.W.F. Province. The scene was the first Round Table Conference. The late Sir Abdul Qayum was pleading for Home Rule for N.W.F. Province. He said: "Mr. Chairman, we in the Frontier put on very large 'pajamas.' But if a flea gets into our pajamas, however strong a man might be, he will have no peace, until he got rid of the flea. I am the flea, Mr. Chairman, and there will be no peace for the British until I got self-rule for my Province"

The House roared. Some one shouted, "Who is the flea here," and someone else shouted, "Nawab of Dera." Now who is this Nawab of Dera? He is a nominated member from the Frontier. His full name is Nawab Sir Ahmed Nawaz Khan of Dera. He is a pillar of strength to the Treasury benches, at least he thinks he is. He has no rival in his loyalty to the British, and he would beseech them to return to India even at Aden, if the British should ever leave this country. The Dera Knight opposed the resolution, as he would and does oppose all other non-official resolutions. His face flashes, he gets angry and excited, if the Opposition members ever criticize the Treasury Benches. The Nawab has no equals, his second and third in the Assembly are Sir Ratanji Dalal and Khan Bahadur Habibul Rahman, both nominated members. Sir Ratanji represents Parsis and Belgaum, Khan Bahadur Habibul Rahman represents himself. The chief claim of the Khan Bahadur for promotion is that he was expelled from the Muslim League. Both are always in their seats and Sir Ratanji is prominent in applauding official speakers.

## The Silent Brigade

There are four other nominated members well-known for their solemn silence. They are Captain Dilpit Singh, Sir Jawahar Singh, Mr Haida Imam and Capt. Tahkur Singh.

And now back to Baluchistan Resolution. Sir Olaf Caroe, External Affairs Secretary and Mr. J. D. Tyson, Secretary, Education, Health and Lands, spoke for the Government. Mr. Tyson would like the House to judge the progress of education in Baluchistan by the number of teachers employed in Baluch schools and by the money spent there on education. Incidentally it was pointed out that three-fourth of the education grant was spent on erecting buildings.

Sir Olaf's main theme was that the British Baluchistan was a small corridor, the major portion of the area known as Baluchistan being either States or tribal territory. He was opposed to "spoiling the simple habits" of the tribesmen by education on modern lines Sir Olaf, however, did not explain why the simple habits of Africans, the South Sea Islanders and others were ruined by the European missionaries. Yes, the Baluch cannot get modern reforms without education. And it was wrong to modernize them, because it would ruin their simple faith and way of living. It was an extremely weak case Sir Olaf was pleading and he knew it, I am sure.

## The Govt. Was "Chup"!

The resolution was put to the vote of the House. Government challenged a division. The division bells rang. The tellers rushed to the division lobbies. The Speaker put the question to the House. The Resolution was adopted. The Government remained "chup." It knew the strength of the opposition. Moreover what did they lose after all even if the resolution had been passed. It was only a recommendation. The Government may accept it and may not accept it.

2nd anniversary-

...of the Women's Auxiliary Corps, of the women who have left their homes and familiar surroundings to don service uniform and take any job they can do...the women who have not let India's manhood fight alone, but have realized that war places burdens on us all. Our country's security is not only dependent upon guns, ships and aeroplanes; it also depends upon manpower to operate these machines of war. Thanks to the women of India, it has been possible to release more and more men for actual fighting duties. Our fighting men continue to battle courageously, confident in the knowledge that vital organization behind the battle area is successfully operated with the capable assistance of the Women's Auxiliary Corps. Let it never be said that India's womanhood neglected its duty in this great world conflict. They have submitted to routine and still kept the sparkle of unfettered days. They have worked hard and let no weariness appear. They have shown not the slightest hint of a drooping spirit and so yielded no points to the enemy. SALUTE!...from India's fighting men to the...

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**Lt.-Gen. J. W. Stilwell (wearing glasses), Commander-in-Chief of U. S. Forces in the China-Burma-India theatre of operations, and General Sun Li-jen, who heads Chinese troops in General Stilwell's command, study Japanese positions from an advanced post in Northern Burma jungle.**

# Release Demand Gaining Ground

## COMMONWEALTH PARTY REITERATES PLEDGE TO SUPPORT CAMPAIGN

LONDON, April 8.

**Britain's youngest political party, the Common Wealth Party, on Friday—the opening day of a four day conference to discuss its future plans—reaffirmed its Indian policy, namely Indian independence and release of political prisoners.**

**The conference stood for a minute in memory of General Wingate whose sister was present as one of the party's representatives.**

The conference decided that Sir Richard Acland should cease to be the president and instead become the leader of its Parliamentary Party of three.

I. L. P. TO DEMAND RELEASE

LEEDS: It is almost certain that the Independent Labour Party conference, which opens here today, will support the action taken by the Indian Freedom Campaign Committee to secure the release of the Congress leaders and obtain a renewal of the effort to establish a national government in India responsible to the Indian parties.

A statement by Mr. Fenner Brockway, Political Secretary of the party, will probably be the main feature of the discussions on this subject by the conference.

In the annual report which is being presented at the conference it is pointed out that Mr. James Maxton has taken up with Mr. Amery the cause of Mr. Suresh Vaidya who was sentenced last month to 98 days imprisonment with hard labour for refusing military orders from the British army on the ground that he was an Indian.

Mr. Maxton is believed to have told the National Council of the Party that he will put questions in parliament regarding the conscription of Indians and that he will propose that it should not be applied to Indians in Britain who intend to return to India. After the war since conscription is not operative in India.

This point is also likely to be discussed at the conference.

**Sickle in and Hammer on**

# TIRPITZ KNOCKED OUT

LONDON, April 7.

The Tripit's Germany's prized 42,000 ton battleship and sister ship to the Bismarck, has been knocked out by the Fleet air arm in one of the most daringly brilliant operations of the war says Reuter's special correspondent.

## German Convoy Attacked Off Norway

LONDON, April 7.

A large merchant ship was hit by a torpedo and at least two of the five escorting vessels left smoking and on fire when R. A. F. Coastal Command Beaufighters attacked a German convoy off the Norwegian coast, this afternoon.

The planes met heavy flak from the shore and the ships but all got back safely.

KARACHI, April 8.—Karachi bids fair to become the centre of a large-scale shark liver oil industry in the near future. The Sind Government has already appointed an expert to draw up the necessary plans for the purpose.—A.P.

# CITY MARKETS

Bombay, April 8.

SHARES: The local Share Bazar was quietly steady with a moderate business. There was some week-end evening of open business. Tata Steel Dfd. Shares opened at Rs. 2,065 and improved to Rs. 2,073 but again declined to Rs. 2,060 and later rallied to Rs. 2,070 Ordinary Shares opened at Rs. 399 and improved to Rs. 401 but steadied at Rs. 400, Bombay Dyeing Shares

ACTIVE SHARES AT A GLANCE

T. S. Ord. (404) 400 1 399 97-8 400 398, T. S. Dfd. (2,096) 2,075 77 63-12 60 70 66-4, Dyeing (2,122-8) 2,115 10 20 23 22-8, Kohinoor (680) 676 78 76 77-8 80, New Great (406) 404 3 2 3, Simplex (260-8) 258 60 61-8, Swadesh (605) 605 5-8 4 3 5 9 8, Swan (380) 378 79 78 80, Finlay (348) 347 45 46 47-8, Gokak (356) 355 56 57, Construction (218) 215 16, Shivrajpur (68-8) 67-8 68.

opened at Rs. 2,112 and improved to Rs. 2,120, Century Shares were quoted at Rs. 1,010 and Kohinoors changed hands at Rs. 677.

The Board has allowed business in Government Securities on Saturdays between 10-30 a.m. and 2 p.m. while daily business in Securities will be done from 10-30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

BULLION: On Friday Foreign Markets were closed The local market was fairly steady and Gold prices after fluctuating between Rs. 74-4, and Rs. 73-12 steadied at Rs. 74, Silver also moved between Rs. 131-12 and Rs. 132-8 and steadied at Rs. 132. To-day being Saturday no sales of Gold were made by the Reserve Bank. The market outlook is somewhat steady.

The market finally closed as under:—Ready Silver Rs. 135-14, Forward Rs. 132-6, Ready Gold Rs. 74-6, Forward Rs. 74-6. Sovereigns Rs. 51-4.

COTTON: The local Cotton Market was dull to-day with a restricted turnover. May delivery opened at Rs. 438 and improved to Rs. 438-8 under scattered buying. Later on there was absence of demand prices declined to Rs. 437-8 on moderate liquidation.

There was some short covering and prices improved to Rs. 439. Towards the close there was increased covering and the market closed at 4 p.m. as under:—

I. C. C. May 442-12, I. C. C. July 453. I. C. C. September 458.

COTTON PARITY: Indian Cotton May Contract is below New York May 399 cent points at Exchange Rate 331.

HIGH AND LOW COTTON PRICES

Bombay, April 6.

I C C May highest 439, lowest 437-1/2, closing 438, I C C July highest 448, lowest 446-3/4, closing 448 I C C September highest 453, lowest 451-1/2, closing 453.

POSITION OF SCHEDULED BANKS.

Statement of the Position of Scheduled Banks as at the close of business on the 31st March:—

Demand Liabilities in India, Rs. 524,35,00,000; Time Liabilities in India, Rs. 168,72,10,000; Cash in India: (i) Currency Notes of the Government of India and Bank Notes, Rs. 22,09,45,000; (ii) Rupee Coin Rs. 1,9637,000; (iii) Subsidiary Coin, Rs. 42,17,000; Balances with Reserve Bank, Rs. 48,46,40,000; Advances in India, Rs. 221,62,22,000; Bills discounted in India, Rs. 10,49,62,000.

U S FEDERAL RESERVE BANK RETURN

New York, April 6.

THIS WEEK

RESOURCES: Total reserve Rs. 19,658,000, Total discounts and advances Rs. 44,000, Total Government securities Rs. 12,332,000.

LIABILITIES:

Federal notes in circulation Rs. 17,636,000, Deposit—memberbank account Rs. 12,277,000, Ratio of reserve to deposits and Federal Reserve notes and liabilities combined 61.2 per cent.

000's omitted.

BANK OF ENGLAND RETURN

THIS WEEK

London, April 6.

Total bullion £643,000 Public deposits £8,700,000, (a) Other deposits £223,600,000, Government securities £189,400,000, (b) Other securities £15,600,000, Notes, gold and silver coin £31,400,000, Notes in circulation £1,119,200,000, Ratio of reserve to liabilities 13.5$_1$ per cent., (a) Other deposits include bankers £166,800,000, (b) Other securities include discounts and advances £13,700,000, Total deposits £232,300,000, Total securities £205,000,000.

# Glimpses Of Coming Films

By T. V. P.

Prakash's newest social "Police" will soon be coming at a local theatre.

"Police" presents an entirely new theme. Ratnamala plays the heroine and Prem Adib stars opposite her.

To commemorate the memory of Late Mr. Vishnupant who wrote the story of "Bharat Milap" and "Ramrajya", the Executives of Prakash Pictures have announced to present a Gold Medal to the Dramatic Company which puts up the best show during the 100th Anniversary Celebrations of the Marathi Stage in the second week of April 1944.

'PATTHARON-KA SAUDAGAR'

Minerva's latest offering 'Pattharon-ka Saudagar' is now ready for release and is booked as the coming attraction at Minerva. Based on a social story by Pandit Sudarshan and produced on the lavish and spectacular style of Minerva, this picture recounts a novel social story of a democratically disposed prince who turns a commoner.

THEME OF "LAL-HAVELI."

The title "Lal-Haveli" relates to the emperor Humayoon's memorable gift of an edifice of the same name, which has since acquired the distinction of becoming historic, to a gallant and faithful Rajput chief; and the nobility of the cause prompting the award forms the theme of Bombay Cinetone production, "Lal-Haveli".

The Producer-Director K. B. Lall has very skilfully worked upon it to present a highly entertaining, and purposeful social, which, above all things, bears out that the Rajputs even in modern surroundings are not lost to that sense of heroism for which their illustrious forefathers are still held in esteem.

ACHARYA'S "PARISTAAN"

"Off the beaten track", is obviously the motto of Producer Acharya. His "Kunwara Baap" was a new and pleasurably surprising departure in screen comedies. His "Uljhan" was a bold attempt at rural realism on the screen. "Age Kadam" which Mr. Acharya recently completed, is yet an other comedy off the beaten track.

His new film "Paristaan" is all about the doings in a girls school.

Panari Sanyal and Anjali Devi with Manju, Sunalini Devi, Amritlal and Padma have been featured in this picture.

## *SAINT PICTURE THAT IS DIFFERENT!*

## *"Pundalik" At Central*

Navyug's latest offering "Pundalik", which had its premiere yesterday at Central amidst thunderous applause from packed premiere houses, marks a bold departure in the cycle of saint pictures in that instead of recounting the conflict between the saint and his enemies, it depicts the evolution of a man, endowed with such divinely human qualities as love and devotion and such human short-comings as impetuousness and intolerance.

Indeed, the first impression after seeing the picture one gets is that it is essentially a domestic drama spun round the grown-up son of the family. When the picture opens an atmosphere of complete happiness reigns over the family. This lasts until the clouds of misunderstanding casts the shadow of gloom over the house, and the loving and devoted son completely loses balance of his mind and drives his parents out of the house and instals a dancing girl in their place. This turn of events make the story of "Pundalik" only mere human and heart-warming and lend the picture realistic appeal.

In the end, the storm that almost threatened to ruin Pundalik's life fades away and the errant son becomes the greatest devotee of his mother and sets an ideal for others to follow.

This human drama embellished with pointed dialogue and tense emotional sequences is one of the finest of its kind to reach the Indian screen. And Roy Kinikar is to be congratulated on his brilliant maiden essay in screen-writing. The screen-treatment by Director Junnarkar is subtle and slick. His special 'low-angle' camera treatment lends dignity and height to every artiste in the picture.

The acting by a featured cast headed by Kusum Deshpande, Sudha Apte, Saroj Borkar and others is good and Devdas, a new comer lives the role of Pundalik. The songs are written with feeling, set to sweet tunes and rendered delightfully.

On the whole 'Pundalik' promises to be even a greater success than Navyug's 'Pahili Mangalagour.'

## Hollywood Glorifies Rich

LONDON, (By Mail): "Nearly 2,000,000 people in Britain go to pictures every week. But the power of the film is not being used to help them to deal with the great social problems of the day.' This is the opinion of Mr. John Reeves, Secretary of the Workers' Film Association. He says:—"Typical Hollywood and English pictures glorified the rich. They had no time for common man and his problems and induced him to fall into a mental and spiritual sleep. The cinema industry was rapidly passing into the hands of monopolies who will turn their theatres into "mental dens". He deplored the suggestion that the Ministry of Information should be continued after the war.

"Already Government had many means of propaganda and it would be dangerous to add to these powers". —India Press Service.


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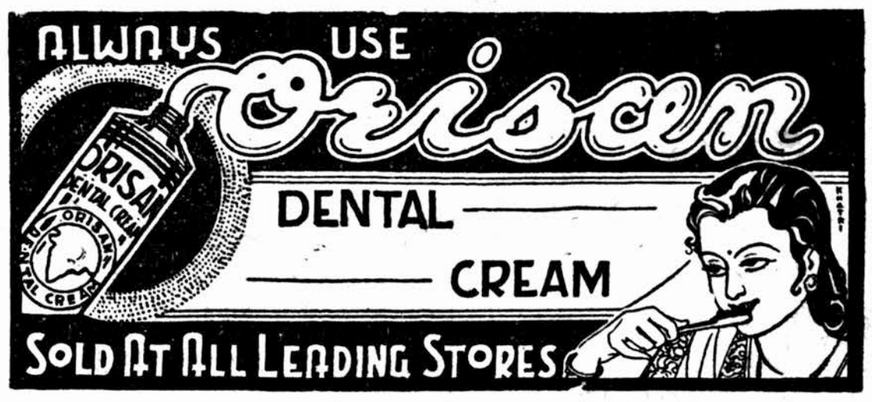


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# FANCY DRESS COMPETITION RESULTS

## *Thirty-Five All Correct Entries Rs. 71-7-0 For Each*

**Thirty-five competitors submitted all correct entries so the whole amount of Rs. 2,500 is divided equally among them, each getting Rs. 71-7-0.**

Jayantilal Jadavji,
74-76, 2nd floor,
Bohra Bazar Street,
FORT.

H. M. Parekh,
151 Bazargate Street,
Fort Bombay.

M. C. Shah,
148 Lamington Road.

Lilaben Madhavji,
C/o Sunderdas Goculdas
Narendra Mansion,
Vatchhagandhy Road.

R. M. Kanabar,
C/o L. O. Vohra,
Minerva Mansion,
Sandhurst Road.

Mulla A. M. Wadhwanwala,
C/o E. E. Dhorajiwala,
487, Kalbadevi Road.

Messrs. B. Pradhan & Co.,
Noorbag Chawl,
End of Noorbag Jail.

Faizulla Moosaji,
2nd floor, Room No. 20,
53 Bhajipala Lane.

Abdul Sattar Ahmed,
C/o Ahmed Hussain,
211-17, Jamal Bldg.,
Nagdevi Street.

Salehmohomad A. Latif,
211-17, Jamal Bldg.,
Nagdevi Street.

Velji Dossa,
C/o P. Mulji & Co.,
Chinch Bunder.

S. F. Akhtar,
Habib Bank,
Mohomadali Road.

V. A. Sani,
2nd floor, Room No. 4,
17 New Hanuman Lane.

Jagannath V. Joshi,
Mahendra Mansion 3rd floor,
New Hanuman Lane.

S. L. Nadkar,
Ammirani Mansion,
Chhotani Road,
Mahim.

**BOMBAY SUBURBS**

Dr. H. N. Vaidya,
Local Board Dispensary,
Borivli (B.B. & C.I. Rly.)

**AHMEDABAD**

Master Mangaldas Mansukhram,
Patasani Pole,
House No. 314,
Ahmedabad.

**ADONI**

Messrs. Abdul Gani Hasam & Co.,
Adoni.

**AMALNER**

Darabshaw Pallonji,
Movdawala.
Amalner.

**DONDAICHA**

Kulsum Valimamad,
C/o Shahamohomad Suleman,
Dondaicha T. V. Rly.

Abubaker Alimohomad,
C/o Shahamohomad Suleman,
Dondaicha T. V. Rly.

Jamila Abdulla,
C/o Shahamohomad Suleman,
Dondaicha T. V. Rly.

Jubeda Abdula,
C/o Shahamohomad Suleman,
Dondaicha T. V. Rly.

**GONDAL**

Abbasbhoy Alibhoy,
Devpara,
Gondal.

**JORAVARNAGAR**

Shrimati K. B. Shah,
C/o Balchandra Tribhovandas,
Joravarnagar, B.S. Rly.

Behen H. B. Shah,
C/o Balchandra Tribhovandas,
Joravarnagar, B.S. Rly.

### Correct Solution

| Illustrations | Illustrations |
|---|---|
| A | 17 |
| B | 11 |
| C | 9 |
| D | 10 |
| E | 13 |
| F | 12 |
| G | 16 |
| H | 8 |
| I | 18 |
| J | 14 |
| K | 5 |
| L | 7 |
| M | 1 |
| N | 3 |
| O | 2 |
| P | 15 |
| Q | 6 |
| R | 4 |

**KARACHI**

Hamid Raja,
C/o Darji Mohanlal Bhanji,
Shop No. 3.
Clerk Street,
Camp Karachi.

Hamid Raja,
C/o Darji Mohanlal Bhanji,
Shop No. 3.
Clerk Street,
Camp Karachi.

**MADRAS**

S. A. K. Sabapatny,
2/11 Arylananda Mudali St.
Mylapore Madras.

K. Yusuf,
Saleh Mansion,
Tucker Lane,
G. T. Madras.

U. H. G. Bhaila,
26 Perianna Mastry St.,
G. T. Madras.

**POONA**

M. V. Bhide,
Ferguson College,
Room No. 336,
Poona.

**VADAL**

H. J. Lakhani,
C/o Taiyab Suleman,
Vadal.

**UJJAIN**

Ebrahim K. Bhagoorwala,
Bhagoorwala House,
Moholla Nawapura,
Ujjain.

Soograbai,
C/o Ebrahim K. Bhagoorwala,
Bhagoorwala House,
Moholla Nawapura,
Ujjain.

**Any competitor whose name is not in the above list may ask for a scrutiny on payment of a scrutiny fee of Rs. 5. This fee will, on no account be refunded if there is no entry which entitles the competitor to a share in the prize.**

**Scrutiny requests must reach our office by 6 p. m. 17th April 1944, after which they will not be considered.**

**Request for scrutiny must be sent together with the remittance of Rs. 5 by Registered Post. The Competition Manager's scrutiny result will be final.**

**The management reserves the right to readjust the distribution of the prizes if any entry entitled to a prize is left out by oversight.**

*Ranji Trophy*

# Bengal's Sensational Collapse

## W. I. S. C. A. COLLECTS 260 FOR 4 WICKETS: FINE UNBEATEN CENTURY BY KISHENCHAND

### *(By J. C. Maitra)*

**After skittling out the remaining 4 batsmen of Bengal for an addition of 10 runs only to the overnight's total of 224, thanks mainly to the splendid bowling of Shantilal Gandhi who capture 6 wickets in all for 50 runs, W. I S. C. A. collected 260 runs for the loss of 4 wickets only, Kishenchand contributing an unbeaten century and Umar Khan 75.**

The stands at the Brabourne Stadium were deserted again on Saturday when the final of the Cricket Championship of India was resumed. This clearly demonstrated the fact that the cricket fever which so overwhelms our city during its season is now completely absent from it.

Shantilal Gandhi who had started his fireworks late in the previous evening, resumed it on Saturday claiming 2 wickets in his third over. Ultimately he rounded off his campaign with a bag of 6 wickets for 50 runs. It was a highly praiseworthy performance indeed!

On the other hand, it exposed the terrible weakness of the Bengal tail —or rather their batting strength as a whole. Seven batsmen could gather only 18 runs between them. It was altogether a sensational collapse to a very promising start.

BAD FIELDING HELPS W.I.S.C.A.

The Western India States Cricket Association replied with 260 runs at the cost of 4 wickets only. If Bengal's fielding had been upto the mark, their opponents would have been in a worse plight than they found themselves in. Catches missed and dropped helped Umar Khan to compile as many as 75 runs. He and Jayantilal batted with marked patience for 195 and 125 minutes respectively, the latter contributing 41 runs.

Kishenchand, on the other hand, batted with commendable freedom and enterprize and knocked up a fine century (102) in 149 minutes without losing his wicket. His third wicket partnership with Umar Khan brought in 112 runs. The Bengal skipper employed as many as eight bowlers, including himself. But the fielding being less helpful than it should be their rivals made the most of it. In the evening Sayeed Ahmed escaped from being run out when he had hardly opened his account. Unless their fielding improves, W.I. S.C.A. is sure to pile up a substantial lead at the end of the first innings.

DETAILS OF THE GAME

N. Chatterji and Mustafi resumed the game for Bengal on Saturday morning against the attack of Shantilal and Saeed Ahmed. Mustafi was the first to fall, Shantilal being responsible for his disposal. (226—7—3). M. Sen who followed was another victim to the same bowler with the total remaining at the same figure. (226—8—0).

Saeed Ahmed got his first victim of the innings in N. Chatterji when he successfully appealed for l.b.w. against that batsman, the score still standing at 226. (226—9—40).

A little later Shantilal finished his side's job by getting S. Bannerji out, when the total had advanced by eight runs. Mitter remained not-out with 3.

W.I.S.C.A. INNINGS

The Western India States began their innings sending out Prataprai and Jayantilal to open the game. With total at 6 Mitter with a beautiful fast delivery smashed Prataprai's wickets before that batsman could break his duck. Umar Khan joined, and when the game closed for lunch Jayantilal and Umar Khan had remained unbeaten, with 23 and 16 respectively, to their credit, the total being 45 for one.

When the play resumed after lunch, Umar Khan and Jayantilal went on having good time with the bat. Bengal's bowling strength was getting exhausted, and about eight bowlers were tried at intervals. The partnership came to an end at 95, when Jayantilal was out l.b.w. to A. Chatterji (95-2-41).

Kishenchand joined Umar Khan, and a little later, hoisted the first century of his side with three off A Chatterji. Sixteen minutes later, his partner with a single off Mitter reached his 50.

Kishenchand followed up with some sound strokes and reached his 50 exactly after 55 minutes of the game. When the game closed for tea, the score-board showed 174 with Umar Khan and Kishenchand at 64 and 59 respectively.

After tea, Kishenchand dished out a few more stylish strokes his score of 68 standing on par with his partner's. The total at this juncture was 190. Then Kishenchand twice sending A. Chatterji to boundary sent up the second century of his side on board

At 203, new ball was brought in. S. Bannerji getting the first benefit of it from the club end.

With the score at 208 Mitter had his second victim in Umar Khan whom he got caught in the slips by Mustafi (208-3-75). Though missed twice Umar had played a very cautious game and his contribution included seven fours.

Prithviraj who joined next did not survive long, because at 215, he was clean-bowled by S. Bannerji (215-4-3).

Saeed Ahmed was the next man in. There were now only 19 runs to equalise but the pace of run-getting had definitely toned down, the fast bowlers being temporarily at the top. Cautiously and confidently, the batsmen collected the remaining 19 runs required to reach their rivals' total of 234.

Kishenchand at this stage had passed his 90. When at 99, he swept Mitter on leg for three and completed his century, only fine minutes before the game closed for the day. When the stumps were drawn, the W.I.S.C.A.'s total stood at 250 for four wickets.

BENGAL—1ST INNINGS.

| | |
|---|---|
| A Jabbar b Shantilal | 35 |
| A Chatterji b Purshottam | 68 |
| P Sen run-out | 61 |
| N Chatterji l.b.w b Saeed Ahmed | 40 |
| A Deb st Prataprai | 1 |
| Maharaja of Cooch Behar c Jayantilal b Shantilal | 8 |
| K Bhattacharji b Shantilal | 0 |
| S Mustafi c Prataprai b Shantilal | 3 |
| M Sen b Shantilal | 0 |
| S Bannerji b Shantilal | 3 |
| B Mitter not-out | 3 |
| Extras | 12 |
| Total | 234 |

BOWLING ANALYSIS

| | O. | M. | R. | W. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Saeed Ahmed | 28 | 17 | 20 | 1 |
| Akbar Khan | 25 | 10 | 28 | 0 |
| Shantilal | 22.2 | 8 | 50 | 6 |
| Jayantilal | 18 | 8 | 41 | 0 |
| Kishenchand | 15 | 6 | 54 | 1 |
| Purshottam | 22 | 9 | 29 | 1 |

Fall of wickets: 1/70; 2/138; 3/182; 4/191; 5/222; 6/222; 7/226; 8/226; 9/226; 10/234.

W.I.S.C.A.—1ST INNINGS

| | |
|---|---|
| Prataprai b. Mitter | 0 |
| Jayantilal, l.b.w., b A. Chatterji | 41 |
| Umar Khan, c Mustafi, b Mitter | 75 |
| Kishenchand, not out | 104 |
| Prithviraj b S. Bannerji | 3 |
| Saeed Ahmed, not out | 22 |
| Extra | 15 |
| Total (for 4 wickets) | 260 |

FALL OF WICKETS:—1/6; 2/95; 3/208; 4/215.

BOWLING ANALYSIS:

| | O. | M. | R. | W. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| B. Mitter | 19 | 4 | 62 | 2 |
| S. Bannerji | 21 | 6 | 42 | 1 |
| Maharaja Cooch Behar | 3 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| S. Mustafi | 6 | 2 | 23 | 0 |
| K. Bhatacharji | 27 | 9 | 51 | 0 |
| N. Chatterji | 7 | 2 | 15 | 0 |
| M. Sen | 6 | 0 | 16 | 0 |
| A. Chatterji | 3 | 0 | 21 | 1 |

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# CITY AND SUBURBS

## TO-DAY

Hindu: Chartra Vad, 1, 2000
Muslim: Rabi-ul-Akher, 15, 1363.
Parsi: Avan 8, 1313
Sunrise: 7-28 a.m. Sunset: 7-53 p.m.
Hightide: 0-15, 12-41, Lowtide: 6-20, 18-32

## To-day's Engagements

ALL-INDIA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE TO-DAY'S PROGRAMME
2nd Sitting of the Conference 11-30 to 1-30 and 2 to 4 p.m. Vanita Vishram Garden.

BHARATIYA KALA BHAVANA: The annual Spring Festival of the Bharatiya Kala-Bhavana will be celebrated today at Mathew Road, at 6-30 p.m. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. C. Sen, I.C.S. will preside.

GAUDIYA MISSION: Bhakti Sastry Ragalankar will speak on "Inconceivable Power of Divine Name" in English, Culliandas Building, Gowalia Tank Road today (Sunday) at 6-30 p.m.

VISHVAKARMA PANCHAL MANDAL: The 3rd annual meeting of the Vishvakarma Panchal Mandal will be held today at 4 p.m. on Harichand Salaya, Khetwadi, Mr. S. M. Dahamkar will preside.

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION ASHRAM. Discourse on "The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna" by Swami Gourishwaranandaji at Sri Ramakrishna Mission Library Hall, at 6-30 p.m. (Sunday) Khar, 12th Road.

CHURCH SERVICE: Easter Service and Holy Kurbana according to the Mar Thoma Syrian rites by Rev. J. Thomas, at the Holy Redeemer Church, Dadar, (G.I.P.) today (Sunday) at 10 a.m.

IQBAL DAY: Under the auspices of the Cutchi Memon Service League Iqbal Day meeting will be held today at the Cutchi Memon Jamat Khana Hall, Kambekar Street at 11 a.m. (N.S.T.)

BOMBAY KERALEEYA SAMAJ: A public reception will be accorded to the Malabar delegates to the All-India Women's Conference today (Sunday) at 9-30 a.m. at the Podar College, Matunga.

BOMBAY KERALEEYA SAMAJ: A public reception will be accorded to the Malabar delegates to the All-India Women's Conference today (Sunday) at 9-30 a.m. at the Podar College, Matunga.

The annual general body meeting of the Bombay Keraleeya Samaj was held on the 26th March, and the following Office-bearers have been elected: Mr. M. Karuvan (President) Messrs. K. M. Philip, K. A. Subramaniam and Dr. Mrs. Karunakaran (Vice-Presidents); Mr. V. K. Ezhuthachan (Secretary), Mr. V. M. Menon (Treasurer) and Mr. V. K. Menon (Chairman).

ART SOCIETY OF INDIA: The 26th anniversary day celebration of the Art Society of India will be held today at the Anand Bhuvan Hall Vithai Patel Road, Opp. Angre Wadi, at 4-30 p.m.
The Mayor of Bombay Mr. M. R. Masani will preside.

KHADI EXHIBITION AT ASTIK SAMAJ: The Khadi and Village Industries' Exhibition at Asthika Samaj, Matunga between 9 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 9 p.m.
On Sunday in addition to exhibition, between 7 to 8 p.m. Mr. Y. G. Krishnamurthy will speak on "Challenge of a new Faith"

THE MARATHA ASSOCIATION, BOMBAY-NORTH: Under the auspices of the above Association debate will be held today at 10 a.m. (N.S.T.) in the premises of the Municipal Marathi School, Shivaji Bhuvan, Vincent Road. (Opp. Broadway Cinema). Mr. G. V. Jadhav will preside.
Subject: "Associations Bearing Family Names are Helpful to Societies."

JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA
Prominent leaders of the All-India Women's Conference, including Srimati Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya and Srimati Renuka Ray, M.L.A., (Central) will address members of the Journalists' Association of India at the Journalists' Club (Prospect Chambers Annexe, Hornby Road Fort) on Tuesday, the 11th inst. at 6-15 p.m.

BOMBAY SUBURBAN HINDI CLASSES
The Hindi classes conducted by the Bombay Suburban Sewapremi Mandal, Malad, viz., Prarambhik, Pravesh, Parichaya and Kovid will be started from Sunday (today) and therefore those who desire to join the classes are requested to enrol themselves at the following institutions: Local Board Marathi School, Malad; Seth Madhavdas Amarshi High School, Andheri, Kandivali Vidyalaya, Kandivali Jogeshwari English School, Jogeshwari.

## RICHES DO NOT MAKE A MAN

### Sir Homi Mehta On Team Spirit That Will Bring Swaraj

The opening ceremony of the Sheth Maneckji Building, erected at a cost of Rs. 24,000 by Sir Homi M. Mehta in memory of his father, for Sir Cowasjee Jehangir High School at Gandevi, was performed on Monday.
A resume of the history of the school was made by the headmaster.
The Managing Trustee read the address and presented it in a silver casket to Sir Homi Mehta. In the address Sir Homi was praised for "removing the long-felt want of accommodation" in the High School and for his "selfless and disinterested service in the noble cause of education".
Sir Homi and Lady Mehta went round the new building and declared it open. Lady Mehta also gave away prizes.

ADMINISTRATOR TAKES CHARGE OF VIRAMGAM MUNICIPALITY
(From Our Correspondent)
AHMEDABAD, April 8.
As the District Magistrate has not called a meeting of the newly elected Viramgam Municipality to elect its President, Vice-President, the Administrator has taken charge of the Municipality.
A deputation of Municipal teachers who suffered in the last Municipal struggle met Hon. Mavlankar and the Municipal President and put grievances before them. They assured that when the Congress Party resumed responsibility for administration they will first consider the teachers' case. Today the Congress Party had entered in the Municipality with a definite purpose.

*Bombay Races; Final Day:*

# Punters Hard Hit At Season's Close

From Our Racing Correspondent
BOMBAY, Saturday.
The lengthy Bombay season terminated to-day when the second meeting which was additionally framed to aid the War Fund was put on action Each and every favourite failed in all the nine events and the regular visitors' experience was as if it were only a programme for just-borns.
Mr. D. Jamsetjee who of late showed eager tendency in the local press for clean an healthy sport brought out the day's exceptionally surprising dark winner in Harut who rewarded each of his ten rupee follower with Rs. 267.

Judging from the past displays of this candidate, one considered more than committing a crime to nominate him to figure on the board and the easily gained victory shocked many who were badly let down by this one in the season. Start to finish tactics was the feature of the day's programme in most events.
Jockey Marrs and trainer Khairaz distinguished themselves with doubles to their credit.

Following are the results:—
THE FREE FRENCH PLATE Division III—Distance 6 furlongs.
Maharani Chimnabai and Mr. Y. V. Ghatge's CARLYON 9-2 Dashratsingh ..... 1
Mr. F. S. Kerr's THE JUDGE 8-3 H. Mohd. ..... 2
Mrs. Justice's KEEP SMILIN' 9-0 N. Singh ..... 3
Prince Jaysinh's EASTERN MAGIC 8-2 Kheemsingh ..... 4
Not run: Bajirao.
Won by 1 length, 1 length, 1/2 length.
Time: 1 minute 18 1/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 110. Places Rs. 30, Rs. 24 and Rs. 18.

THE INDIAN AIR FORCE CUP Division II—Distance 1 1/4 miles.
Mr. R. P. Ebrahim's FLOWER OF CALCUTTA 8-10 Marrs .... 1
Haji Rashid Fadhoos's KUMMER II 9-0 Evans ..... 2
Mr. J. D. Banatwalla's BLACK HUSSAR 9-0 Burn ..... 3
M/s. Tibrewalla and Modi's HALFAYA 8-10 Raffaele ..... 4
All ran.
Won by 3/4 length, 2 lengths, 1/2 length.
Time: 2 minutes 19 4/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 57. Places Rs. 19, Rs. 29 and Rs. 19.

THE FREE FRENCH PLATE Division II—Distance 6 furlongs.
M/s. Ebrahim and Dossa's ROYAL PRINCESS 8-4 Burn 1
Maharaja of Parlakimedi's LYDIA 9-0 Rook ..... 2
Mr. S. G. Bhopatkar's SHAKUNTALA 8-0 Brace ..... 3
Mr. Osman Chotani's PRINCESS PADMA 9-2 Jadhav ..... 4
Not run: Blue Water and Comet.
Won by 1/2 length, 1 length, 3/4 length.
Time: 1 minute 16 1/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 86. Places Rs. 26, Rs. 34 and Rs. 29.

THE GREECE STAKES Division II—Distance 7 furlongs.
Mr. Dhunjishaw Jamsetjee's HARUT 7-12 Z. K. Khan ..... 1
Mr. Saleh Moosa's JASSIR 8-5 Kheemsingh ..... 2
Mr. Merchant's SAHRAN 8-12 Faruq Shah ..... 3
Mr. D. F. Karaka's JANAB 8-7 H. Singh ..... 4
Not run: Najah Kamil.
Won by 1 length, Nk. 2 lengths.
Time: 1 minute 35 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 267. Places Rs. 71, Rs. 32 and Rs. 35.

THE WAR GIFTS FUND CUP—Distance 1 1/4 miles.
Mr. I. G. Gajjar's COBALT 8-5 Percival ..... 1
Mr. M. D. Petit's KOTOR 8-10 Evans ..... 2
Mr. J. D. Banatwalla's ROYAL PAGE 8-12 Burn ..... 3
Mr. F. A. Irani's COUGAR 8-7 Virsingh ..... 4
Not run: Royal Blood.
Won by 3 lengths, 3 lengths, 4 lengths.
Time: 2 minutes 7 1/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 37. Places Rs. 17 and Rs. 13.

THE POLAND PLATE—Distance 5 furlongs.
Major A. Svamvur's WHAT AGAIN 8-7 Southey ..... 1
Lady Sherbanoo Chinoy's SNOWFALL 8-7 Raffaele ..... 2
Mr. E. D. Pandole's BATHURST 8-7 Sibbritt ..... 3
H. H. The Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda's GAY SON 8-7 Britt .. 4
Not run: A Little Sherry and Hotch Potch.
Won by 2 lengths, 3 lengths, 2 1/2 lengths.
Time: 1 minute 2 4/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 120. Places Rs. 15, Rs. 11 and Rs. 13.

THE INDIAN AIR FORCE CUP Division I—Distance 1 1/2 miles.
Mr. G. Shaul's AMIR AL JAZIRA 9-4 H. Singh ..... 1
Mr. R. T. Wandekar's KARAM AL RAHIM 9-0 Chavan ..... 2
M/s. Talib and Mehta's MAJNUN ANWAH 9-0 Marrs ..... 3
Mr. K. N. Multani's MIAMI 9-0 Mohd. Khan ..... 4
Not run: Shanghai and Malik Al Jiyad.
Won by 1 length, 1 1/2 lengths, Nk.
Time: 2 minutes 21 3/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 74. Places Rs. 26, Rs. 85 and Rs. 19.

THE GREECE STAKES Division I—Distance 7 furlongs.
M/s. Sigtia and Talib's CHAUVE SOURIS 8-1 Evans ..... 1
M/s. Mehta and Hope's KING HILAL 8-13 Kheemsingh) ..... 2
Mr. N. N. Cohen's JUTLAND 8-3 Brace ..... 3
M/s. Abrahams's KING SOLOMON 9-4 Jones ..... 4
Not run: Lord Wavell, Khalaf Sabhan and Amir Al Khail.
Won by 2 1/2 lengths, S-hd. Hd.
Time: 1 minute 35 3/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 78. Places Rs. 30, Rs. 66 and Rs. 56.

THE FREE FRENCH PLATE Division I—Distance 6 furlongs.
Prince of Berar's WINDSOR WAY 8-13 Marrs ..... 1
Maharani Chimnabai's BEAU BRUMMEL 8-11 Sibbritt .... 2
M/s. Tyebjee's and Maskati's MUBASHSHIR 7-8 Percival .... 3
Mr. Osman Chotani's PICK ME UP 8-12 Raffaele ..... 4
Not run: Pure Emerald, Pashwanji and Peerless.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 37. Places Rs 17, Rs. 18 and Rs. 23.

## WHY THIS SCARCITY OF NEWSPRINT?

(Continued from page 4)

product is technically known as "mechanical pulp." If, however, the paper were to be made out of this pulp it would not have the requisite strength for newsprint. It would be brittle. To four parts of it is, therefore, added one part of pulp that has been cleaned much more thoroughly of perishable materials by means of chemicals, chiefly sulphites. Thus reinforced it can stand handling.
If we in India are ever to free ourselves, at least partially, from dependence upon foreign sources, we must follow Canada's example.
Firstly we must utilize our soft woods that would yield white or whitish paper without chemical bleaching.
Secondly, we must reduce Indian spruce and cognate species to pulp at or near the site from which they are extracted; and
Thirdly, we must build up the pulp industry as a sister, if not daughter, of the timber industry.
To do so we should begin work in forest areas that are not so far removed from communications as to make pulping uneconomic, even in the days when shipping shortage ceases to complicate life. There are, I understand, such areas both in Kashmir and Tehri Garhwal.

### Good Prospects In India

His Highness Shri Sir Hari Singh, the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir, has now the advantage of having a shrewd, energetic Prime Minister—Sir B. N. Rau. He will, no doubt look into this matter in the light furnished by the World War Number Two and put into execution a practical project as soon as machinery can be obtained.
His Highness Shri Sir Narendra Shah, the Maharaja of Tehri Garhwal, is I learn, alive to this opportunity. The difficulties involved in obtaining newsprint will, I am sure yield to his persistence and drive. I look forward to the day when the sacred waters of one of the parent streams of Ganga Mai will be grinding Indian spruce into pulp and this and other newspapers will be printed on paper made in India and borne over the breast of holy waters.
In the second stage of this phase of economic development, we should push communications into our forests. If we can command something of the adventurous spirit and all conquerring resourcefulness that Canadians have shown in this matter, we should be able to transmute potential wealth, now lying untapped and even rotting in our forest areas remote from civilization, into economic products and by-products.
This activity would benefit the men who risk their money and the workers who help the capitalists to carry out such projects. It, at the same time, would be of advantage to the millions of newspaper readers in India. It would give them their dailies, weeklies monthlies quarterlies and annuals, printed upon indigenous newsprint.—"Tribune."

# Dance Drama To Help Malabar

While the whole country has no doubt been moved to compassion by the suffering and tragedy of Bengal, it is sometimes forgotten that other parts of India are suffering almost as acutely as Bengal. One such area is Malabar where the dual menace of disease and starvation has taken a very heavy toll. It is very necessary, therefore, that all efforts should be made to send monetary help and medical relief to this distressed area
An organised attempt to provide succour to the unfortunate destitutes of Malabar is being made by a group of youthful enthusiasts who are staging a dance-drama (based on an ancient Tamil play from "Silapatikaram") in aid of Malabar Relief
The dance-drama has been composed by Mrinalini Sarabhai (nee' Swaminathan) who will also take the main dancing role. Nandita Kriplani, a grand-daughter of Rabindranath Tagore, is also closely associated with the production. Among the galaxy of dancing talent taking part are Shankar and Panikar from Malabar, both excellent dancers.
The dance-drama will be staged at the Framji Cowasji Institute (old Wellington Cinema, opposite Metro, Dhobi Talao) on 17th and 18th instant at 6-30 p.m. and on 19th instant at 9-30 p.m.
The cause as well as the show deserve generous support from the Bombay public.


# REMEMBER.

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## PUBLIC NOTICES.

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IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that Nos. 23 Dn., 33 Dn. and 24 Up, 34 Up Poona Passenger trains have been cancelled from date until further notice.

8399


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## Mr. G. D. Daftary, I. S. E. Chief Engineer & Secretary, P. W. D.

BOMBAY, Friday.

Mr. G. D. Daftary retired to-day after 31 years' meritorious services in the Public Works Department of the Bombay Presidency.

Mr. Daftary who hails from Morvi, graduated from the College of Engineering, Poona, with First Class honours securing the first rank. He joined the Bombay P.W.D. in 1913. During his thirty-one years' service, Mr. Daftary has successfully carried out a large number of important works in various parts of the Province some of which are modernising road surfaces in and around Poona, improving and concreting Bombay Poona...Bombay Agra Roads in the Northern Circle, and a number of important bridges on the Bombay Ahmedabad Road. He was appointed as Chief Engineer and Secretary, P.W.D. in 1943.

*Mr. Daftary*

Mr. Daftary was a Member of the Committee appointed by the Government of Bombay for reporting on cheap and durable types of roads. He was also Chairman of the Committee for Minor Improvements to Road, etc and was President of the Bombay Engineering Congress for the year 1942. He was awarded the King George V Silver Jubilee Medal and the Coronation Medal.

## *PRESS CENSORSHIP IN ORISSA*

### *Plea For Provincial Advisory Committee*

CUTTACK, April 6.

A resolution urging on the Government of Orissa and the President of the A. I. N, E. C. the need for taking suitable measures to establish a provincial press advisory committee in terms of the constitution of the A. I. N. E. C. to work the Delhi Agreement, was passed at the first All Orissa Journalists Conference held at Cuttack under the presidentship of Mr. A. D. Mani, Editor, "Hitavada".

The conference deplored the 'severe censorship of news imposed by the Government regarding the food situation in the province. Such a censorship has resulted in an erroneous picture of the food situation in the province being presented not to the public in Orissa, but also to people outside."—A. P.

## Move To Fight Local Elections

(From Our Correspondent.)

THANA, April 8.

It is regrettable that some Congressmen in Thana District, and among them there seem to be some who happen to occupy high places in the Congress organisation who in spite of the clear order of the M. P. C. C. seem to be bent on organising elections to the District Local Board, and also participating in them. They seem to have organised a special party for their purpose called the Congress Nationalist Party.

## *Mr. G. L. Mehta Pleads For Basic Chemical Industry*

CALCUTTA, April 8.—The fourth All-India Pharmaceutical Conference was inaugurated to-day at Calcutta by Mr. G. L. Mehta who, in the course of his address, urged the need of development of a basic chemical industry in the country. He emphasised the vital part that basic chemical industry played in the development of a healthy and expanding pharmaceutical industry. He also dwelt on the lack of co-ordinated growth of the pharmaceutical industry, as a result of which certain drugs were not produced in the country, while in certain others there was over-production.

Mr. Mehta urged the need of adequate research and proper organisation of the industry in respect of standardisation, publicity and marketing. He pointed out that pharmaceutists were an essential link between chemical manufacturers and the public, and said that it was in so far as the industry subserved public needs and interests, and realised its wider social obligations that it could win public confidence and support.—A.P.

## Ibrahim Rahimtoola Memorial Shield Photographs Competition

An Exhibition of Selected Photographs from the Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola Memorial Shield Competition, 1943 will be held at the Society's premises at 195, Hornby Road from the 13th to the 19th of April. The Exhibition will be formally opened by Sir Homi M. Mehta, Kt., President of the Society on the 12th of April at 6-30 p.m.

A trophy known as "The Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola Memorial Shield" has been presented to the Society by Mr. Abdulla I. Rahimtoola, one of the Founder Members of the Society, in memory of his late father. This Shield will be awarded for the best picture of the year by a member of the Photographic Society of India. The competition for 1943 held this year is the first of its kind and the Shield has been awarded to Mr. Homi K. Dadyburjor, A. R. P. S. for his picture "Rhythm and Grace".

The total number of prints received for the Competition was 117 from 33 members. As the standard of the competition was high it was decided to hold an exhibition of selected photographs. The photographs have been judged and selected by Mr. K. J. Khandalawalla.

## Illicit Liquor Manufacturers Sentenced

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Three convictions of two weeks' R. I. plus a fine of Rs. 100 or in default another four weeks' R. I. were imposed on Erachshaw Mancherji Kapadia by Mr. K. J. Khambatta at the Girgaum Police Court whose flat No. 1, 1st Floor, Ali Mohamed Mansion, Grant Road, was raided by the police on July 9, 1943, on receipt of information that large quantities of illicit liquor were being manufactured there by the accused with the help of two servants, Pedru alias Narsu D'Mello and John Rodrigues.

The Magistrate convicted the second accused to 1 week's R. I. plus a fine of Rs. 50 or another two weeks' R. I. each on three different counts.

The 3rd accused was given the benefit of the doubt and acquitted.

## *All-India Weather*

POONA, April 8.

The following is the weather-chart showing maximum and minimum temperatures and rainfall in inches recorded at eight hours on April 4th

Allahabad 82 67 0.2; BOMBAY 88 74 0; Calcutta 93 75 0; Cawnpore 82 64 0.2; Cuttack 85 76 0; Darjeeling 56 44 T; Delhi 76 54 1.2; Dehra Dun 77 46 1.3; Jacobabad 83 57 0; Karachi 85 74 0; Lahore 63 55 1.3; Lucknow 80 62 0.5; Madras 93 7 0; Nagpur nil nil nil; Patna 88 66 0.2; Peshawar 61 52 0.4; Shillong 65 55 0.3; Simla 49 31 P.M.R.—A. P.

The Sir Fredrick Sykes Village Improvement Challenge Shield for the best village improvement work in the Southern Division during 1942 has been awarded to the village of Halkarni, in Chandgad mahal of the Belgaum district.

# Politics Must Go

## Wanted An Ordinance

By G. L. M.

Since "politics" is so much at a discount now-a-days and no words are strong enough to condemn it, would it not be desirable to ban politics altogether in this country through another Ordinance on purely "non-political" grounds, of course?

Politics is the one sin against the Holy Ghost. It appears we have had or are having too much and too malignant a kind of "politics" and must, therefore, eschew it in every sphere of activity...war effort, economic, business, Chambers of Commerce, education and the Universities, the press, the army, the Corporation and local bodies and, last but not the least, our food. Politics, indeed, seem to infect our outlook and to pollute all our work. Indians, particularly of a certain variety, are incapable of considering or discussing any subject, however abstract or remote, without introducing "political" considerations and betraying a "political" bias. Subjects which should by common acceptance and recognised practice be "above politics" are readily seized upon by them. Even in Legislatures, Central or Provincial, you hear nothing but "politics"! Questions like arrests and detention are heatedly discussed from a purely political angle; even matters like sale of gold and taxation are made the plaything of "politics"! This surely is unheard of. In other countries, even those to whom the Atlantic Charter might apply (the policy of "unconditional surrender" permitting), and those who do not need it (being Charterers, themselves), no one introduces such "politics" in their criticisms of policies and measures of Government. Everything there is smooth and "nice" like the behaviour of guests at official functions. This obsession with "politics" in our country is all the more astonishing and unjustifiable considering our political conditions. Did not an eminent Indian judge remark some years ago that a subject country has no politics? "Politics" should, therefore, be taboo for us.

* * *

Take for example, this common word "national". In pre-war years, all right-minded people looked askance at the very mention of this word. It savoured too much of "politics". It had unhappy associations with the Indian National Congress, it smacked of "national" movement and nationalist agitation. If it was suggested to services like railways or bodies like port trusts that they were part of a national system of transport, they raised up their hands in holy horror: they had nothing to do with "politics". That was apparently the sole concern of the Central Government which in its turn regarded "politics" as a subject indistinguishable from "law and order" and, therefore, falling within the jurisdiction of the Home Department. All other Departments at the Centre should, however, be free from the taint of "politics"...whether it be defence, finance, transport, supply, commerce and industry, education, health and lands, posts and aviation, labour and what not.

* * *

And though after the war, the Government acknowledged that some kind of a nation existed in India and organised "national" war fronts and admitted the need of "national" policies, they saw to it that such movements and bodies kept aloof from "politics." If the war was to be successfully waged, "politics" should be banned while organising a "national" front and popularising a "people's war". After all, war effort cannot be mixed up with "politics" conditions in Russia China, even Britain are different. War is a highly technical and complex business and fought for purely non-political aims: that is, not markets and sources of raw materials and spheres of influence and fields of investment nor, indeed, for the non-liquidation and solidification of Empires, but for democracy, freedom, self-determination, international order which have all very little or nothing to do with "politics"—at any rate such "politics" as obtain in India through the wrangles and tangles of various communities and sections. The independence of other countries is a fact while that of India is still a political goal. Similarly, there is no place for "politics" in finance—high or low. Questions like currency and exchange, financial settlement with H.M.G. problems involved in sterling balances and lease-lend have nothing whatever to do with our political relationship with Britain or the status of India 'vis-a-vis' independent countries. India's monetary policy, it is well-known, has always been determined in the past by impartial experts necessarily of Britain in accordance with recognised financial principles for no one's benefit in particular but in common interest. For the desire to promote any sectional good, either of Indian industry or agriculture, exporters or importers, would amount to being influenced by political considerations. The cost of so many wars fought on Britain's account and in order to enable Mr. Churchill to preside over the continuance and expansion of his beloved Empire was debited to India because that was warranted by scientific and objective canons of public and international finance. So with industry and trade. Imperial preference or the slogan "Buy British" or the insistence on the establishment of a world order to promote the prosperity of U. K. are in no sense political objectives, but Swadeshi and economic planning and national economic policy in India involve "autarkie" and rational isolation for sectional gains and for purely political objectives..... the aim to hit Britain "Non-economic industries" cannot, for instance, be encouraged because that would, by its very definition, be "political action." The recruiting of services, the importation of experts, the appointments in key positions are all on sheer merit even as the selection of men for the executive councillorships does not depend on their political leanings and affiliations but solely on their eminence and patriotism. Even patriotism in India has to be completely "non-political" in its essence because the illiterate and poor masses of this country know nothing and care nothing for "politics" and it is them that the present Government truly represents. Yet "politics" is such an obsession with some people in this land that they are even prepared to die in jail and on pavements in cities just to spite the authorities and make sheer political capital out of a situation. It is, therefore, "high" time (as they say when they want to take "strong" action against "unrepresentative" men) not merely to denounce but finally to renounce "politics" in this ancient land which is always on the brink of prosperity and freedom but for the mischievous, stupid and wily politicians. A fresh and probably last Ordinance is essential to suppress and outlaw all "politics"

* * *

Caution, no doubt, will have to be exercised in clearly defining "politic". Approval and support of action and measures of the Government should not be misconstrued as "politics". It is criticism and opposition to the policy of the Central Government or of a Ministry functioning with the goodwill and backing of the Central Government or British community which constitutes "politics." To wave the Union Jack or even occasionally the Red Flag now and give three cheers to Mr. Churchill and, if need be, the local Collector is not "politics"; but to hoist the tri-colour flag or even show a photograph of Gandhiji and Pandit Jawaharlal in a film is definitely "political." To describe this war as a "people's war" is not "politics"; but to call it an "imperialist war" is rank "politics." Or, to say that the Fazlul Haq Ministry was responsible for the food muddle or that a Hindu Mahasabha member of the Viceroy's Council is betraying communal partisanship is not "politics" at all but to suggest that the food crisis was not adequately handled by the succeeding Ministry or is showing communal bias even in food matters is "politics" of the deepest dye. And to praise Lord Wavell for his prompt visit to Bengal is to give him his due; but even to hint that his predecessor could equally easily have gone over to Bengal once before his departure is to seek to make political capital out of the miseries of the people. Different times different tastes, of course. Communism was "political" some years ago, now it is highly respectable and is a passport to official favour What constitutes "politics" also depends on who says it, if we say that in any international currency or tariffs arrangements, Indian interests should be amply safeguarded, that is to apply the narrow political criteria of national interest to an economic plan. But for Lord Keynes to contend that the American currency plan infringe on British sovereignty is not a reversion to nationalism but a purely technical argument. In other words, you must grasp the elementary but fundamental fact that opposition to authority is "political" support to it, however indiscriminate is scientific and objective—it is never inspired by political motives or considerations. By eschewing "politics" therefore, we must trust the powers-that-be. "Politics" must go or else, we might have to go—into wilderness or prison or the other world.


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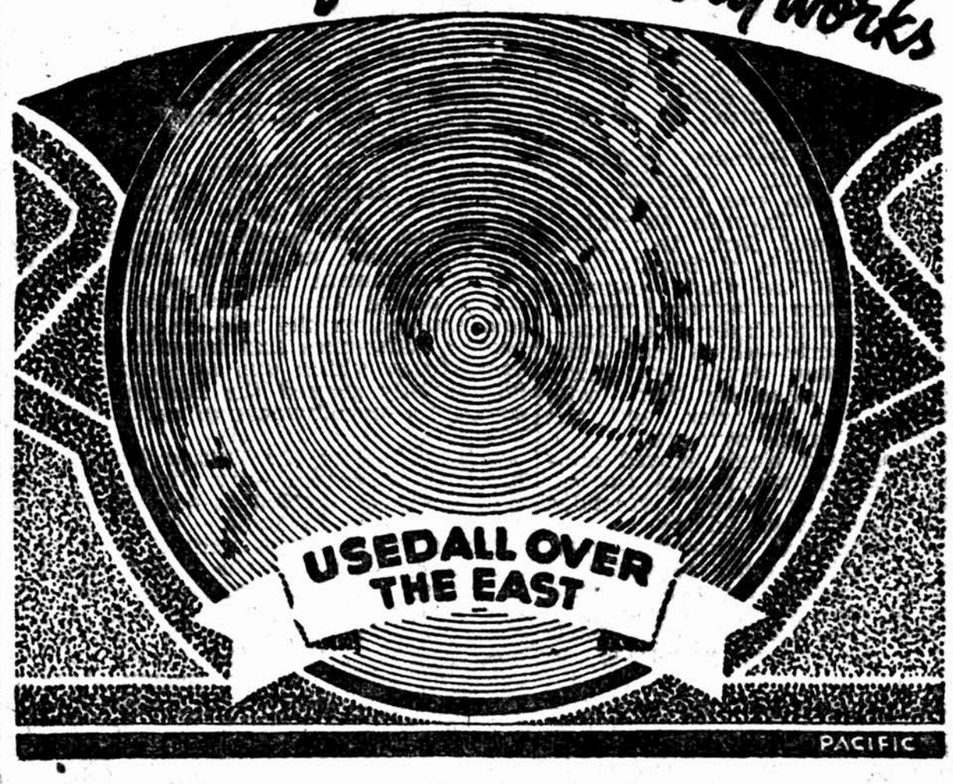


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# Women's Conference Condemns Baroda Marriage

## DISCUSSION OF SOCIAL, LEGAL AND EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS

**Resolutions dealing with the social, educational and legal problems pertaining to women and children were passed at the second day's session of the All-India Women's Conference at the Vanita Vishram Gardens, on Saturday. Mrs. Kamaladevi presided.**

**Heat was imported into the otherwise placid proceedings of the Conference when a resolution condemning the action of the Maharaja of Baroda in violating the monogamy law of his state, came up for consideration.**

A resolution moved by the chair congratulated the Bengal branches of the Conference on the excellent relief work they had undertaken in opening milk centres for starving children and homes for destitute children. The Conference recorded its great appreciation of Smti Vijayalakshmi Pandit and Mrs. Urmila Mehta's admirable work in visiting villages affected by famine which resulted in the formation of the All-India Save the Children Committee. The resolution was unanimously passed.

Miss Gladys Owen (Oudh) moved a resolution recommending introduction of social sciences in all stages of education, with particular emphasis on practical work. The resolution further called upon the higher educational institutions to devise a scheme whereby it would be incumbent on students to serve a period in one of the recognised departments of social activities, before they are qualified to receive a certificate, diploma or a degree.

Moving the resolution Miss Owen said that here was an opportunity to do a practical job straightway, if one bore in mind the need for the spread of adult education and literacy and other social service activities. She pointed out the case of China where a lead had already been given.

The Resolution was seconded by Smti. Kamala Ratnam and supported by Begum Anwarulla, Smti. Umabai and Smti. Sushila Munshi. The resolution was unanimously accepted.

Another resolution expressing the opinion that the Hindustan Scout Movement should be encouraged and special efforts should be made to popularise its women's section was moved from the chair and accepted without dissent.

Moving a resolution on the second marriage of the Maharaja of Baroda Dr. (Mrs.) Venutai Lele said that as a result of this marriage, the women of India were disgraced. Mrs. M. S. H. Jhabwala seconded the resolution. After Mrs. Mankeswar moved an amendment condemning the action of Maharani Seetadevi, the second wife of the Maharaja of Baroda, Mrs. Tarabai Deshpande supported the resolution, emphasising the need for moral pressure against the action of the Maharaja. She stated that there would have been an uproar in the country, if a woman had married a second time while her first husband was alive. She appealed to all young women present at the conference to be decent, to use their discretion and not to be instruments of such marriages. It was a common fact that women were more decent than men, and she warned the younger women not to intrude in another woman's life as Seetadevi had done.

Begum Sugra Humayan Mirza supported the resolution.

Smti. Kamla Ratnam supported the resolution and opposed the amendment, which was thrown out. Rani Laksmibai Rajwade supporting the resolution, said that the marriage of the Maharaja of Baroda had created a stir in the whole country. It was more than a personal matter, as it came from the ruler of a state—an advanced state—which had legislated that a man should not marry a second time when his first wife was living. And the ruler of the state had broken his own law.

Miss Leelamani Naidu moved another amendment which was carried. The resolution as finally amended and carried reads as follows:

"This Conference strongly condemns the action of the Maharaja of Baroda in violating the law of monogamy in force in his state and regards his action as definitely detrimental to the progress of society in India."

Begum Khadija Minnhaj moved a resolution supporting the Shariat Bill introduced by Baji Rashida Latif in the Punjab Legislative Assembly. Mrs. Hussein Ali Khan, Hyderabad, (Dn.) seconded the resolution. Smti. Rajen Nehru, Begum Anavarulla, Smt. Kirloskar and Miss Papil Khandwala supported the resolution which was unanimously accepted at the conference.

Rani Lakshmibai Rajwade moved a resolution urging upon the Government to take effective steps so that medical help is made available for every citizen of this country by a scheme of compulsory health insurance, in view of the extremely inadequate provision which existed for medical aid in India. The mover referred to a committee which was doing work in this connection in Delhi. She was not optimistic about the report of that committee being put into effect. Referring to the lack of medical aid in this country she pointed out that the 1939 Census reports show that there were 42,000 doctors and 4,500 nurses for the whole country with the result that there was one doctor for 9,000 people and one nurse for 86,000 people. In foreign countries on an average, the figures worked out at 750 and 400 respectively. Hospitals were also few in this country and looking to the 7,300 hospitals it worked out at one hospital for 41,000 people. She emphasized the need for health insurance schemes because two lakhs of women die during childbirth in this country every year.

The resolution was seconded by Miss. A. Khemchand. The resolution was accepted.

Earlier, six condolence resolutions touching the death of Mr. R. S. Pandit, Kasturba Gandhi, Begum Azad, Mr Mahadev Desai, Mr. Ramananda Chatterjee, Smti Shymaladevi Belgaumkar and Mr. V. M. Joshi, lately Principal of the Women's College of the Indian Women's University at Poona were passed, all standing.

The Conference adjourned till today (Sunday) 12-30 p.m.

# WOMEN'S LEGAL RIGHTS

## *Motilal Setalvad On Freedom's Battle Reactions*

The complicated question of the legal rights of women was lucidly explained by Mr. Motilal Setalvad in a lecture to the delegates of the All-India Women's Conference at the Vanita Vishram Gardens on Saturday evening.

He said that during the last 20 years the status of Indian women had grown considerably. The spread of liberal education had been one of the causes of this growth. But nothing had so uplifted women as the national movement. They had taken a large part in the country's struggle for freedom, with the result that throughout the length and the breadth of the land, a new spirit permeated. It was but natural that women should ask for certain legal rights.

The rights that were at present being demanded fell into four heads, rights as to inheritance; rights generally over property; rights in respect of marriage laws and lastly rights as to divorce.

Dealing with inheritance, the lecturer said that the law had guaranteed certain rights to Muslim and Christian women but the position of Hindu women was the same as it was when a village community and the joint family was the pattern of society. Women had been denied the share with rare exceptions such as a lonely daughter. Recently, legislation had been introduced to give a share to widows. The Intestate Succession Bill now before the Central Legislature gave rights of inheritance both to the widow and the daughter. Although this was not a full share it was a great step forward and every support should be given to it.

The same Bill also sought to remove the restrictions on women's estates and confer full rights of property.

The question of monogamy and divorce arising therefrom was one which affected all women. He thought it would be discreet to go slow and talk of divorce only after the principle of monogamy had been accepted as law.

# "MUSEUM OF SPINELESS MEN"!

## *Pt. Kunzru On Viceroy's Executive Council: Plea For Leaders' Release And Formation Of National Govt.*

LUCKNOW, April 8.

The second and final session of the Non-Party Conference was held this morning in the Kaisarbagh Baradari, Lucknow, under the presidentship of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru.

Dr. Hriday Nath Kunzru moving the resolution on the "reconstruction of the Governor-General's Executive Council without delay as a true national government with a Prime Minister," said that although repeated demands had been made for a change in the character of the Executive Council, no steps were taken by the Government in that direction. They had appointed ten Indians as Executive Councillors but their demand was quite different. They wanted people who enjoyed the confidence of the country to be at the head of the Administration.

### MUSEUM OF SPINELESS MEN

*Dr. Kunzru described the present Executive Council as a museum of spineless men from all parts of the country," and added that it was regrettable that at the present time, the progress of the country was being retarded by the present Executive Councillors who had made a laughing stock of themselves at the hands of the bureaucracy.*

Continuing Dr. Kunzru said that they were asked by the British Government to settle their differences themselves. The Speaker referred to the happenings in Canada and said that Government there had themselves played an indispensible part and assisted in the solution of the peoples differences and formulated a constitution which was acceptable to all. It only showed the British Government's unwillingness to part with power.

The refusal of the British Government to implement any agreement that might be arrived at between the various parties in India, said Dr. Kunzru, was a serious matter. It was still more serious for the Government to refuse to release Mahatma Gandhi who represented the interest of the country in a manner in which none else did. The Government justified its action on the ground that the Congress leaders were responsible for the acts of violence in August 1942 and that they had not yet given any indication of a change on their part.

### RELEASE GANDHIJI

There was a time, said Dr. Kunzru, when Government carried on their suggestive propaganda both in India and in the U.S.A to the effect that Mahatma Gandhi was pro-Japanese at heart and hence refused to co-operate in the war effort.

Things had changed during the last year and a half and in spite of their past propaganda, Mr. Amery said in the House of Commons recently that Government never accused Mahatma Gandhi of being pro-Japanese. It was good, however, that Government, notwithstanding what they did and said in the past, were now willing though indirectly, not to maintain their charge against Mahatma Gandhi. If the Mahatma were set free now, there was no doubt that he would approach the present problems in an unbiassed manner which he had always shown in the past.

What had the mighty Government done during the last three or four years to resolve the deadlock, asked Pandit Kunzru. It had isolated itself from the public opinion and refused to budge an inch from the position it obstinately took up some years ago.

### SAPRU'S CONCLUDING SPEECH

LUCKNOW, April 8.—The Non-Party Leaders' Conference concluded its deliberations after passing remaining resolutions.

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru in his concluding speech strongly urged that Mahatma Gandhi and other leaders should be released forthwith as he was convinced that he was the one man who would cast all his influence to bring rapprochement among conflicting elements in our body-politic. He added whether we agree with non-violence or not, he was the one man who holds the imagination of the people to an extent to which no other person does in India.

He felt, he said, that it was unfortunate that the biographer of Lord Allenby should play a different role in India, and hoped that Lord Wavell must tell Mr. Amery that his appreciation of India's problems and position should be accepted by Amery as after all the relation of the Viceroy and the Secretary of State depended upon the personality of each.—U.P.

## Giraud's Challenge To De Gaulle

NEW YORK, April 8: General Henri Giraud has refused to step down as Commander-in-Chief of the French forces and has challenged General de Gaulle to oust him during a "disagreeable" 30-minute conference, said an 'Associated Press' despatch from Algiers today.—Reuter.

## Parsi Panchayat's No To Panthaki's Request

Mr. N. B. Panthaki has received a reply in the negative from the Trustees of the Parsi Panchayat to his letter to them requesting them to pass a condolence resolution on Kasturba Gandhi's death and also to call a public meeting of Parsis for the same purpose

### FOURTH DAY OF THEIR FAST

BOMBAY, Saturday.

It is reported that all the inmates of the C.D.O. Jain Boarding, Mandvi, have been dismissed by the authorities. The fast undertaken by the students four days ago to protest against the dismissal of a student still continues.

NEW DELHI, April 8.

The Government of India have issued a notification on April 5, 1944, fixing maximum and minimum prices for raw jute at Calcutta, says a press note

By the same notification, the Government of India have also fixed maximum prices for manufactured jute goods sold for export.—A.P.

## The WACS

*Celebrating their second birthday to-day.*

## *W. A. C. (I)'S SECOND BIRTHDAY*

The Women's Auxiliary Corps (India) will be two years old today (Sunday). Bombay's W.A.C.'s will celebrate the occasion with a big parade on the Esplanade Maidan at 6-45 p.m. tomorrow (Monday).

The R.I.N., Army and R.A.F. companies will be reviewed by the Governor of Bombay. Major General C.E.R.G. Alban, Area Commander, will also attend the parade.

The women in the Auxiliary Corps India) are doing a splendid job of work and have learnt very rapidly that discipline and smartness at all times are necessary for efficient co-operation with their particular Arm of the Service.

Among the many jobs they are tackling are; General Duty Clerks, Stenographers and Typists, Officers and Auxiliaries in ordnance shops and Ration Stands, Plotters for the R.A.F. and A.A. Guns, Cipher operators, Photographic work, Storekeepers and Accountants, Electrical and Radio Mechanics.

It may be interesting to note that in the South of India alone there are over 2,500 W.A.C. (I)'s 1,600 in the Army, 700 in the R.A.F. section and 200 in the R.I.N. section of the total number in India over 7,000, nearly half are Indians.

# The Last Page

*Continued from Page 14*

ducer, film artiste or just a critic and connoisseur of art. For her rebellious spirit is essentially that of an unconventional and iconoclastic artist rather than of a political demagogue. Music has been the secret passion of her life and her artistic soul, even in the hurly burly of politics, has sought such unusual outlets as designing patterns for printed Khaddar saris and reviving the dying handicraft, besides the usual activities like arranging exhibitions of paintings and forming art centres.

But then she might have been a writer, too, for she is devoted to literature and can express herself in a simple and unaffected style. All told she has written four books—"Women's Movement In India" "War-Time China' "Japan—Its Weakness And Strength", and "Uncle Sam's Empire." And I suspect she has a few more up her sleeve!

It is a pity, no doubt, that artistic and sensitive souls like Sarojini Naidu, Vijaylaxmi and Kamaladevi should be drawn into the vortex of politics, to the detriment of more congenial and pleasanter pursuits. But our national politics has definitely been the better for their participation. I think if Indian national life is comparatively free from the soulless Tammany Boss rule of American party machines and the cynical opportunism of British politics, it is due (to a very large extent) to the gentle presence and mellowing influence of gallant women like Kamaladevi.

## Punjab Ban On Abdul Qayum

LAHORE, April 7.

An order under the Defence of India Rules was served on Mr. Abdul Qayum Khan, Deputy Leader of the Congress Party in the Central Assembly by the Punjab Government at Ambala Railway Station while he was travelling in the Frontier Mail from Delhi to Rawalpindi directing him to leave the Punjab within 24 hours.

Mr. Qayum, who was to preside over the Punjab Motor Transport Conference at Rawalpindi, passed through Lahore this afternoon. It is learnt that he has no intention of defying the order.—A. P.

# BOOKS AND THEIR AUTHORS

## INTERPRETATION OF NEHRU'S IDEALS

THE BETRAYAL OF FREEDOM, by Y. G. Krishnamurti, Popular Book Depot, Bombay 7. Price: Rs. 3.

Mr. Krishnamurti adds yet another thought-provoking monograph to his already fairly long list of books. This time he analyses the West's "Betrayal of Freedom" in the light of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's political ideas. As Mr. Bhulabhai Desai observes in his Foreword, "the book demands careful study and provokes profound thought", for its subject matter is vital to the future welfare not only of India but the entire mankind. Freedom must be saved from being reduced to a meaningless slogan to be exploited at will by the enemies of Freedom. It must be reinstated as the corner-stone of any projected world order, but then it must be the genuine article as defined and exemplified by Nehru. For, among all the politicians and statesmen. Nehru alone "by his sacrifice no less than by his genius, has vindicated the place and value of freedom in the evolution of civilized man."

It is open to question, however, whether a clear thinker and writer like Nehru who has repeatedly and clearly enunciated his living ideals in his own writings needs an interpretor—even an able and scholarly interpretor like Mr. Krishnamurti. Also it is difficult to endorse the author's opinion that "we cannot pin Nehru down either to Gandhism or Socialism," for Nehru has on more than one occasion expressed his abiding and unequivocal faith in Socialism. The author feels to produce a single quotation from Nehru's writings to support his contention that "his socialism is of the non-Marxian variety." It seems a case of blind worship to compare him with Plato, Marx and Spengler. Indeed, while Nehru occupeis a unique place in the ranks of the world's noblest fighters for freedom, one can hardly call him a "political thinker". Nehru is a man of action who, in his life, has vivified the humanistic as well as the socialistic concepts of freedom. But he himself will be the last person to claim that he has made any substantial contribution to the structure of political thought.

## Mixed Grill

LONGMANS MISCELLANY. 1943. pp. 249 (Longmans) Calcutta, 1943.

This is a difficult book to review. It is meant to be a collection of poems, short stories, articles and pictures by a large number of authors and artists. The purpose of the publication as revealed in the foreword is to provide an opportunity to poets, prose-writers and painters to put their work before the public.—an opportunity which the circumstances of our times make it very difficult to obtain While appreciating the well-meant enterprise of the publishers, the feeling at the end of our perusal is not quite satisfactory. Among the topics dealt with are T. S. Eliot's technique Jamini Roy's art, Beetles and Birds, Ch'engtu's Tea-Shops (a translation from the Chinese) a study of India's place in the Pre-Historic East and various others. Strewn all over besides are poems, some translated from Latin Bengali or Chinese, while others are in English. The styles and standards vary the East mingles with the West and the Moderns vie with the Ancients. It is one of those "Reader's Digests" now growing in numbers, raised to the dignity of a book Any opinion on a venture of this type needs to be expressed with some reserve.

As a "Miscellany" it has the advantage of bringing together artists of many nations with their widely differing themes and their varying methods of approach. But the result is far from satisfactory, and the reading leaves no pleasant taste behind.

B J W

## In Uncle Sam's Land

AN INDIAN LOOKS AT AMERICA. by K. A. Abbas.—The Rampart Library No. 30, published by Thacker & Co. Price Rs 1/8

Nearly six years ago, K A Abbas undertook a tour He did not exactly go round the world in eighty days; nevertheless it was something of a whirlwind affair. But in reporting it is not merely the things seen and heard that matter The man who sees and hears matters almost as much, if not more Here was a journalist trained in the art of observation, with a flair for reporting and a keen sense of "copy" going round the world Naturally his typewriter clattered out, first, a stream of articles and ultimately a book

And now Thackers have reprinted eight chapters of that book in this small volume. I had read all this long ago. But I read these 84 pages once again and found it enjoyable reading. The chapters are in the form in which they were originally written, as articles, from rooms in the Y.M.C.A. or on fast moving trains and plunging ships. Writing in calm retrospect. Abbas could certainly have produced a better planned and more finished work. But perhaps, it is better that the articles are left as they were written, because they show what a good reporter can do. even at odd moments, snatched from the excitement and the hurly-burly of a round the world tour

G N A

## Indians In S. Africa

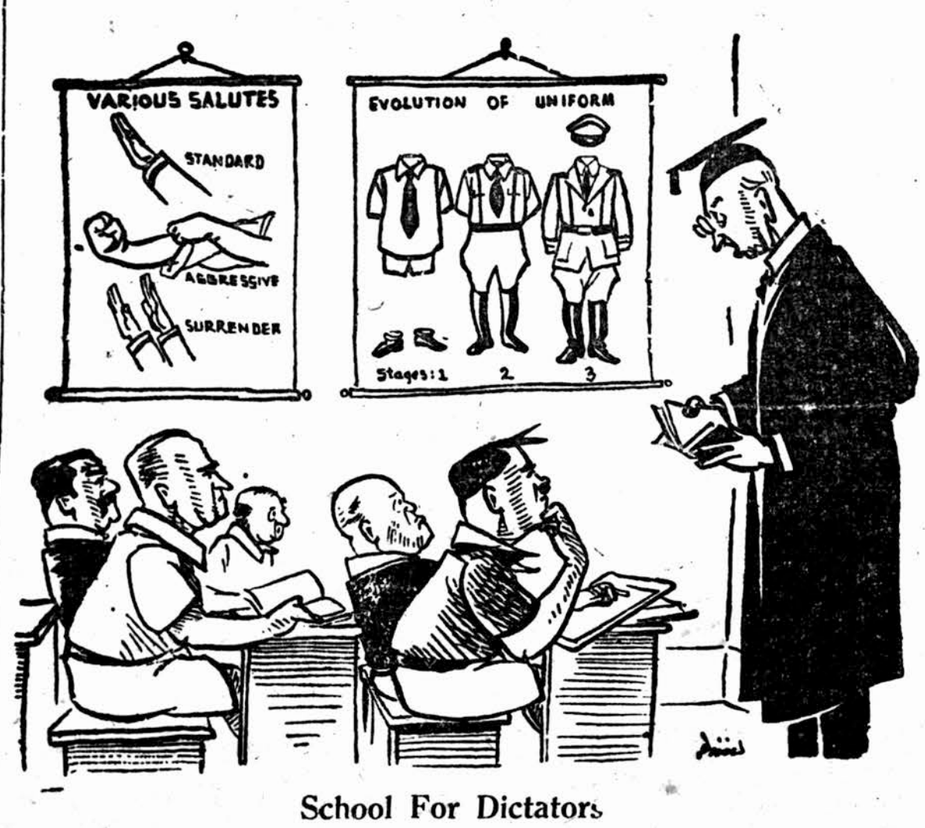
"INDIANS OF SOUTH AFRICA", by Bhaskar Appasamy, Padma Publications Ltd., 53-55 Laxmi Building, Sir Pherozeshah Mehta Road Bombay. Price As. 12.

Mr. Appasamy deserves thanks for compiling a brief history of the struggle of Indians in South Africa from its earliest days to the Pegging Act of 1943

S. A. W

### GUJARAT AND KATHIAWAD STATES

The forthcoming publication "Princes of Greater Gujarat". by Mr R. C. M. Nanavati F.C.I., F.F.C.S. F.R.Econ.S., F.S.S. (Lond.) will contain detailed and interesting information about the States in Gujarat and Kathiawar and their Rulers. the progress made by them and the reforms introduced in their respective States. It would also contain interesting articles from well-known writers.




School For Dictators

# Triumph Of Essayist's Art

**ONIONS AND OPINIONS. essays, by N. G. Jog, with a Preface by Robert Lynd, Thacker & Co., Ltd., Bombay. Price: 6|12.**

One of the earliest and most widely regretted casualties of the war was Mr. N. G. Jog's weekly essay that was a Sunday morning delight to so many readers of this paper. One liked to begin the sabbath with a mellow humour that refreshed and soothed even while it provoked and titillated, and left behind a pleasant taste on one's palate—and one's mind! The wheel of 'Karma' (for some obscure sin in a previous birth) turned the essayist into a war commentator and, though now and then one caught glimpses of the familiar literary style between talk of pincer movements and flank panzer attacks, the gentle undertones of the critics of life were drowned in the roar and thunder of a deadly war.

It is more than gratifying, therefore, to find this book of delightful essays by Mr. Jog. While it will create in some of us a nostalgic yearning for the gracious days of peace that are no more, it will also help to relieve the acute tension and war-weary nerves from which we all suffer to-day.

N. G. Jog has the real essayist's knack of turning the commonplace into something infinitely interesting by his penetrating observation and witty comment. But, unlike many essayists, he is not a denizen of the ivory-tower engrossed in observing the star-spangled heavens above while the world below is in a deadly conflagration. He allows his wit and his fancy to play upon all that makes the complex pattern of modern life—dictators and their shirts, cats and crosses, legs and legends, war, war-prophets and war-time marriages, the Viceroy's bulls and love's first ecstacy "in the spring." But whatever he touches he transforms, or rather illuminates not with the searchlight of a harsh logic but the kindlier light of a mellowed wit. It is our good fortune, indeed, that in the midst of the most inhuman carnage the world has ever known, when fanaticism and inhumanity stalk the earth, we have a few free spirits like Mr. Jog who have preserved their sense of humour and their sense of values.

This reviewer is not surprised that Robert Lynd, perhaps the finest living essayist writing in the English language to-day, found in these essays "a fine sense of humour and a capacity for bringing it to bear on everyday things? .. the play of a free mind on the current of human life." Doctor Lin Yutang who is another distinguished exponent of the essayist's art, paid him a rare compliment when he wrote "You are a man after my own heart." There is no doubt, in fact, that Mr. Jog's reputation as an essayist will soon transcend the frontiers of India and introduce to the world of letters a 'litterateur" who puts in chiselled English the reactions of a cultured and sensitive Indian.

The illustrations by Piciel (see above) are excellent and in keeping with the spirit of the essays.

K. A. A.

## CIVICS

NAGARIK SHASTRA (Gujarati) by J. C. Chinoy and M. A. Desai. 3 Parts. Published by N. D. Mehta & Co., Kalbadevi, Bombay 2.

Recently Civics has been added in the curriculum of the Primary standards by the Government of Bombay and in the three parts of this work, the various subjects comprehended in "Civics" such as, Sanitation, Agriculture, Industries, Holidays, Urban and Rural life, etc., are treated of in such a graded way as to satisfy the requirements of the students of the first to fourth standards. The style adopted is simple and attractive so as to engage the attention of the reader and add to his knowledge. All the parts are illustrated

## Abdul Haque Academy Publications

We have received from the Abdul Haque Academy "Sada-o-Rangin" a collection of small stories by Zafar Kureishi, "Khanquah" and other stories by the well-known story-writer, M. Aslam "Kanwal" and other stories by Aazam Karivi and ten small volumes of children's stories. The stories by Zafar Kureishi, M. Aslam and Aazam Karivi are above the ordinary while the children stories are both informative and entertaining "Karkhana" by Mahomed Fazlur Rahman is a short and delightful comedy.

## "This World-Wide War"

"This Preordined World-Wide War of Mahabharat and Its Result" is the title of a gilt-lettered and sumptuously got-up brochure by Prajapati Brahma Kumari Om Radhe (Avinashi Gyan Yagya Camp, P.O. Box 381, Karachi). Its purport is that the present time is the confluence of the end of Kali-Yuga or Iron-Age, during which extreme irreligiousness and unrighteousness prevails, and the beginning of Satya Yuga or Golden-Age when celibacy, peace, law and order will prevail all over the world, and the Golden-Age will be ushered in, and that for this purpose, "Divine Father Prajapati Brahma and His Divine Ones" have already re-incarnated in this world in the form of ordinary human beings.

The publication can be had free of charge in any popular language from the author.

*My dear Sisters & Brothers,*

Many wild creatures have uncanny ways of forecasting the weather. They know to a certainty when a violent change is approaching, and those of us who can read the secrets of the fields are often able to predict coming gales or storms with more certainty than our excellent Meteorological Office.

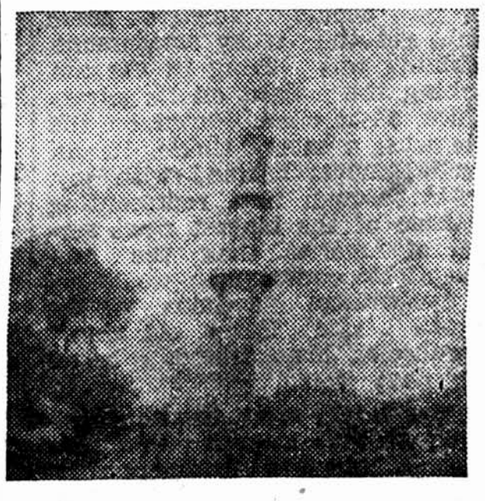
We can understand a bird or mammal having a presentiment of a gale or storm which is likely to arrive within a few hours, but what are we to think of wild birds that are able to arrange their domestic affairs according to the kind of weather they are going to live through months ahead?

The spotted bower bird is able to accomplish this. Her usual clutch of eggs is two, but she varies the number according to the amount of food she will be able to collect for her family when they arrive. If a good season is approaching she will lay three eggs, for instinct tells her that food will be plentiful. If a long drought is on its way, she gives up domestic affairs entirely for that season. If moderate weather is expected, a single egg is laid

* * *

On certain shores lives a species of turtle which lays its eggs in the sand a few feet above the line that will denote high-water at the time when the young are due to appear. The eggs are laid weeks ahead of the actual rising or falling of the river, and in some seasons there may be a margin of at least three miles in its width, but this tortoise or land turtle never makes a mistake, always depositing them in a secure spot just the right distance above the line which later will show the high-water mark.

There is a differene in the number of eggs laid by some birds in varying seasons. The lapwing will, if the spring is likely to be warm and damp, depart from its usual custom of laying only four eggs, and add one more to her clutch. A few years ago there were records of clutches of five, and the season proved to be suitable for the young.



**Chand Minar, Daulatabad. (Photo by Shums Tayabji, 11 years).**

Many of the larger birds are good weather prophets. Those roosting on cliffs, such as buzzards, ravens and eagles, will use the same sheltered ledge for years in succession, but if a storm is likely to rise in the night and blow directly into their shelter, they will move to more favourable spots. There was a raven who did this on three occasions, and in each instance a great gale arose during the hours of darkness. Had the bird been in its original shelter it would have had a most uncomfortable time.

* * *

Do you know why kettles "fur"? Well, try to pour boiling water out of a kettle and you may get scalded in the attempt. This happens because the water comes out of the spout in a series of jerks. That is an indication that the spout of the kettle has become "furred" and the water is unable to pass freely.

When water is boiled in a kettle carbon dioxide gas is given off, leaving a number of impure deposits inside the vessel. This gradually hardens and the crust thus formed is known as "fur."

These impurities arise where the water runs throughout limestone and chalky places before it reaches our taps.

**ON THE BRIDGE**

*All Good Wishes from*
*Your Loving Dada*
*"GULISTAN", KHAR—BOMBAY 21.*

# The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

## "Is there anything important in the paper to-day?"

*"Nothing much except the usual dope. Another of those R.A.F. raids over Berlin. There is absolutely nothing new in the papers these days."*

*"I wonder what all these war correspondents are paid for. I bet they spend most of their time playing rummy or bridge at a safe distance from any shootin' and firin'."*

★

In a pub in Fleet Street, generally haunted by foreign correspondents, there was a mild flutter of excitement. Even the hard-boiled, cynical newshawks had the glimmer of enthusiasm in their steel-grey eyes—eyes that had seen too much, too often.

The Air Ministry had allowed five newsmen to go along in that night's R.A.F. raid over Berlin. This was the chance each one of them had been hoping for. But only five were to be allowed. The rest would not be able to cable to their home offices: "Your correspondent has just returned from a thousand-bomber raid over Berlin....." They must be content with second-hand reports of the raid.

The lucky five were being heartily envied by their colleagues and had to stand drinks all round to appease the disappointed and the envious.

In one corner of the smoke-filled room, slim, 23-year old Lowell Bennett of the International News Service of America, was playing a strange game with a colleague. They were tossing a coin to decide which of them should get the lucky assignment. A shilling was flung in the air, catching the light on its silvery surface, as it came down on the table with a merry tinkle. Heads. Lowell Bennett beamed with joy. It was through him, representing all three of the biggest news services of America, that the millions of his countrymen would get an eye-witness account of the historic raid. "Sorry, old chap", he consoled his friend, "better luck next time.

A few hours later, in the ghostly fog of an English December night, a thousand bombers roared away from a dozen aerodromes all over England. 'Target for tonight; Berlin! Five of these carried beside their crews, one correspondent each, tensely excited as the giant fortresses crossed the channel and flew on silent wings towards the heart of Germany.

The anti-aircraft fire was particularly vicious that night, as wave after wave of R.A.F. bombers laid its deadly eggs over the capital of the Reich. Berlin was getting a dose of its own medicine. The London Blitz was being avenged. Flames leapt up from the bombed city and the newsmen, far up in their respective bombers, had that peculiar feeling which newsmen get when they are witnessing a moment of history. But what was that? Why was the plane behaving so erratically? Were the flames on the ground leaping up so high—or could it be they were hurtling through the air towards the ignited earth?....

There was a pall of gloom next day over the little pub in Fleet Street generally haunted by foreign correspondents. Of the five reporters who had gone to 'cover' the last night's raid only two had returned. Three would never come back—including Lowell Bennett, the slim 23-year old reporter who had won his right to die by the toss of a coin!

★

*The man rolls over his bed; opens sleepy eyes.*

*"Is there anything important in the paper this morning?"*

*"Nothing much. Dull as usual. The island—hopping game seems to be still going on merrily in the Pacific. Now there is something about another place with a funny name—Tarawa."*

★

*A collective sigh of intense boredom resounds all over the darkened auditorium. "That inevitable war newsreel again! Americans Land in Tarawa! Who wants to see it? Let's go out and have a drink while there is still time for the main picture to start. These news-reels bore me stiff."*

★

There was no moon in the sky, only the stars witnessed the grim drama.

The convoy stole through the night—grey, formless masses hardly distinguishable from the blue-black inkiness of the sea and the sky. But inside the bowels of the floating monsters there was life, activity, excitement! The assault battalions were standing by for the word "go". Amphibious tanks were geared to action; ready to plunge through the surf at a moment's notice.

Among the toughs of the assault battalions were six whose toughness was of a different fibre: United Pressman Richard Johnston, Associated Pressman William Hipple, Don Senick of Fox Movietone News, A P. Cameraman Frank Milan, Robert Sherrod of "Time" and Gilbert Bundy, cartoonist, assigned to do war sketches for King Features.

The landing boats were lowered, the assault began. From the beaches came a shower of Jap. bullets. The Yanks replied with a volley covered in the boats waiting for the moment to come to closer grips with the enemy. Newsmen got the tingling sensation which their typewriters would never be able adequately to record, as bullets whistled past them in the ghostly half-light and men who had been lustily talking, shouting and cheering only a moment ago fell dead or wounded by their side. Men fell in the boats, more men fell on the beaches and the Jap retreated inland, firing away like hell as he went.

Gilbert Bundy, the cartoonist who had never handled a deadlier weapon than a paint brush, went with the second group of landing craft. About 75 yards off-shore his boat received a direct hit from a mortar shell. All in the boat were killed instantaneously or blown into the water—all except Bundy who was unharmed!

He jumped out, was carried seaward by the tide, hauled himself into another boat only to find it was full of dead Marines. All night he stayed with the dead and next morning he came close to being shot at for a Jap.

It was after three days that the battle for the island was won and the reporters returned to their ships to write their dispatches. But first each of them had to rush to a shower bath to rid himself of the putrid smell of—dead bodies! And one had first to get his head-wound dressed. Don Senick of Fox Movietone had been hit by a Jap bullet. But the unluckiest of all was the swarthy little cameraman Filan, for when he jumped into the water from his boat his camera was thrown overboard and the film got ruined.

★

*The man had been to a Saturday night party which ended in the early hours of the morning. He has a hang-over, a splitting headache.*

*"Is there anything important in the paper to-day?"*

*"Nothing much except that Wingate was killed in an aeroplane crash.'*

*"Wingate killed? When?"*

*"On the 24th of March, it says here."*

*"And we get the news one whole week later! I would like to know what these war-correspondents are doing all the time."*

*"Playing rummy as usual, I guess."*

*The man turns over and goes to sleep again.*

★

Both the newsmen were mighty pleased with themselves. Since Jack Beldon of "Time" hacked his way through the Burma jungles in his famous "Retreat with Stilwell', this was the biggest, most exclusive scoop anyone had been able to get anywhere in the eastern zone of this four-front war.

Yes, Stuart Emeny of the "News Chronicle" and Stanley Wills of "Daily Herald" had reason to congratulate themselves. Both were had-bitten, experienced war correspondents. Emeny, 40, had been through the Italian invasion of Abyssinia, the Arab-Jewish trouble in Palestine and in India he had witnessed and reported a different kind of war being launched on August 8, 1942. Wills had been in Algiers and last February he was in Burma, the only journalist to witness the relief of the Seventh Indian Division after its long siege by the Japanese and in a dramatic cable had described the scenes when the relief convoy got through.

But both were agreed that their latest scoop would be the luckiest of all. It would make all other correspondents turn green with envy. They had accompanied Major-General Wingate's jungle raiders on one of the most spectacular and daring expeditions undertaken in this war and were returning "with him" report on the new Allied airfield behind the Japanese lines. The world spotlight was already focused on the Wingate 'stunt' and no one could tell the world more about it than they could—for they had been with the "Laurence of Burma" all the time.

As the powerful American bomber roared over the dense jungles and hills of Burma over Jap-held territory they were planning the cables they would send as soon as they touched land. The pilot pointed down to the unseen line across the hilly landscape that marks the Burma frontier on the map. Now they were flying over Indian territory. In a few minutes, at most an hour, they would land and their sizzling scoop would be on its way to their respective offices in London. Keen journalists as they were, they felt the delightful thrill of anticipation. And then something went wrong.....

Stuart Emeny and Stanley Wills could not cable their scoop. One does not even know what exactly that scoop was. When General Wingate's plane crashed on a mountain ridge, all the occupants were killed and burnt in the resultant blaze

★

**Twentynine British and American war correspondents have now been killed on all fronts during the present war.**

★

*There is a dull plop as the paper falls on the floor through the slit in the door. There is sound of rustling paper as the pages are mechanically turned by lazy fingers.*

*"Is there anything important in the paper this morning?"*

*"Nothing at all. The same old boring war news. I really wonder what all these war correspondents are paid for!"*

★

## India's Three Graces

In Bombay to-day are the three most remarkable Indian women of modern times—Sarojini Naidu, Vijayalaxmi Pandit and Kamaladevi. The West will find it difficult to point to three women of such eminence. And for a comparison we will have to go to another eastern country—China—and to China's matchless Soong sisters.

So far as Mrs. Naidu is concerned she has acquired a position where even to say that 'she needs no introduction" is trite and ridiculously superfluous. The Taj Mahal of Agra is the Taj Mahal of Agra—and not a beautiful mausoleum made of marble in a city in Northern India! Sarojini Naidu is Sarojini Naidu—and only a fool will seek to paint the lily!

★

## Lin Yutang's Tribute

Vijayalaxmi Pandit (who received a nation's condolences in her recent bereavement when she lost her husband) is many years younger than Mrs. Naidu—notwithstanding the prematurely greying hair which frames her strikingly beautiful face! Daughter of Motilal Nehru, sister of Jawaharlal Nehru, wife of the late Ranjit Pandit, patriotism is in her blood and she was brought up on a diet of politics as other children are brought up on Glaxo or milk. At an age when English and American Society "belles" make their social debut at their coming-of-age Balls, Vijayalaxmi was in jail. At a time when girl students at Oxford could not be members of the Union Society, and in many American States women legislators were an unheard-of phenomenon. Vijayalaxmi was Minister of Health in one of the most important provinces of India.

A rare tribute to Mrs Pandit was paid by Lin Yutang when during his stay at Anand Bhuwan, he asked me almost in a shy confidential whisper, "Tell me, is Mrs. Pandit supposed to be a beautiful woman in India?" I said, "Assuredly'. And, after a thoughtful pause, he gave his final verdict "She would be called beautiful in any country. But she is more than beautiful—she is a very remarkable woman."

**KAMALADEVI**

*A non-political fish caught in the net of politics.*

★

## Born Rebel

Kamaladevi added yet another distinction to her series of achievements when she was accorded a civic reception by the Bombay Corporation. Few women (in any country) have thus been honoured. And her twenty-years' work in the service of Indian women has been crowned with the presidentship of the All-India Women's Conference.

But I like to think of Kamaladevi in different—less 'respectable' and more rebellious—roles; Kamaladevi, a child widow, breaking caste barriers and orthodox conventions by marrying for love; Kamaladevi enlisting herself as a Congress volunteer and breaking salt laws during the last Civil Disobedience movement; Kamaladevi, the habitual jail-bird; Kamaladevi, advocating socialism from the Congress platform; Kamaladevi, partnering her (then) husband, Harin, on the stage; Kamaladevi shocking 'respectable' and orthodox society by appearing on the screen in "Vasantsena" and "Bikhre Moti"; Kamaladevi in the divorce court—yes, even that was a momentous occasion, for she was the first Hindu woman to secure the right to have her marriage legally annulled.

★

## When "Duff" Became "Muff"

Little known is another interesting highlight of Kamaladevi's political career. In the course of her American lecture tour, in 1940, she found that Lord Halifax and Duff Cooper were touring the United States, addressing meetings and trying 'to white-wash British imperialism, especially its black record in India. She made it a point to attend all such meetings whenever she happened to be in the same town and challenge the statements of the two propagandists of imperialism. The audience invariably cheered her challenging and 'inconvenient' questions and Halifax and Cooper both had a hard time of it trying to answer her.

On one occasion her verbal barrage floored Duff Cooper so completely that the British Minister had to beat a hasty retreat by the back-door. That incident provoked some American papers to give him the name of "Muff" Cooper!

★

Politics in India has become the inevitable profession of all patriotic and conscientious souls, and a strange assortment of fundamentally non-political fish have been caught in the net of politics. Had India been free fifty years ago, Gandhiji would have by now retired from the Bar to carry on some harmless small-scale experiments in truth and dietics, Jawaharlal Nehru would have settled down to a literary (or, may be, scientific) career, and Mrs. Naidu would have written—and lived—nothing but poetry. Kamaladevi herself would have preferred some form of artistic activity—as a musician stage pro-

**(Continued on Page 12)**

# MORE ABOUT THOSE HATE PICTURES!

**One of our contributors, in a recent issue, raised the question: Is Topical Film The Enemy of Tomorrow? Today we publish three other view-points on the same subject, the first one by a distinguished American film critic, and the other two by our own readers.**

Bosley Crowther writes in "New York Times":—

Anyone who hoped with rationality at the outbreak of the present World War that our screen would be kept free of such "hate films' as were so luridly displayed during the last has had reason to be disappointed—and may yet be even more so. Not that our pictures in this war have cut loose with the same wild excess in exhibiting the villainies of the enemy as they did during World War I. No Germans with drink-sotted faces have been seen to grab girls by the hair and drag them, with obvious intentions—and they screaming—to a fate worse than death. No babies have been openly and frankly impaled on a bayonet point and, so far as this writer has witnessed no hands have been cut off pitiful tots. The Hays office has seen to it that such atrocities are never clearly shown.

But that doesn't mean that brutalities of the most lurid and suggestive sort have not been implied in some pictures without either let or shame. In the picture, "Hitler's Children", which was quite a success last Winter, the Nazi technique of marriageless breeding of German girls was rather sanguinely explored and the threat of sterilization was made an issue in a romance. In "The Strange Death of Adolf Hitler", now to be seen (if you insist), the rights of the Nazi soldiers to the women of Vienna are discussed and a brute is shown making lustful passes at the shuddering mother of two small boys. Likewise, in the picture "Hostages", currently at the Globe, a line of Polish maidens is led into a Nazi club for the officers' delight. In the Alan Ladd film called "China" it was explained in horrified detail that a little native girl was ravished and murdered by the Japanese and in "Hitler's Madman" a vivid sequence was devoted to the enforced prostitution of Czech women

### Means To An End

To be sure, such lurid atrocities are generally presented in films as passing demonstrations of Nazi or Japanese techniques. They are used, as illustrations of fascist immorality, of the general lust and depravity induced by a political creed. And the manner in which this is accomplished is very plainly seen in "Behind the Rising Sun" a fervid picture, now showing at the Palace. In many respects this picture is bold and provocative. It starts out with uncommon promise to tell of a Japanese youth, the son of a one-time liberal, who returns to his native land from schooling in America bent upon doing good works. But the sudden espousal by his father of Japanese imperialist ideas, the young man's recruitment into the army and his isolation from the low-caste girl he loves breed in him a callousness which soon turns to rank brutality.

And with that the picture slides off into a straight "atrocity film." Japanese soldiers are shown throwing Chinese babies into the air and presumably spearing them with bayonets, to judge by the mothers' anguished screams. The Japanese custom of prostituting low-caste girls is emotionally dramatized. And much emphasis is placed upon the torturing of a group of American friends of the Japanese youth. In other words, it is quite apparent that the producers of the film, RKO. were more anxious to show sheer brutalities than to follow through on intellectual lines. And vicarious vengeance for the violence exercised by the Japanese in the film is provided by a physical climax, in which American bombers blast Tokyo to smithereens.

### Tears Or Leers?

Beyond question, countless horrible atrocities have been committed by our enemies, and it is part of the tragedy of total warfare that peoples should be encouraged to hate. But it is hard to accept the utilization of the screen for this grim necessity, especially when villainies are exhibited with such obvious commercial elan. There have been films from Russia which have shown us disgusting and horrifying things such as butchered peasants and children lying frozen in the snow —things which convey the cold brutality of the enemy with a shock that stuns the brain.

But when a Hollywood-made motion picture pretends to suggest atrocities by dwelling in a strange erotic fashion on Nazi breeding "farms" when it shows a Nazi officer choosing from a group of captured girls and all of them very pretty and seductive to the eye, the primary motive of the producer is open to serious doubt. And when a film shows tortures and brutalities in patently painful detail the appeal is more likely to morbidity than it is to any sense of outrage.

The fact that the owners of such pictures are aware of their morbid appeal has been indicated by the manner in which they have exploited their films. Lurid advertisements, billboards and theatre fronts have played up the "shocking" features of frequently class-B shows. And the unmistakable sex angles have been proclaimed quite openly with posters of fear-frozen women being menaced by brutal men.

It is one of the ironies of warfare that such dubious films and displays—manifestations which, in peace time, would be regarded as outside the pale—can be palmed off as righteous inducements to a true war consciousness. And it is a shame that the screen as a medium should be brazenly degraded in this way. If atrocities are to be shown the public, let them be real atrocities—the pitiful wretches of the occupied countries, the broken prisoners, the piles of dead. Don't let them be such "atrocities" as might be observed with a leer.

## "Topical Film—A Friend Of To-morrow!"

**By M. HOSAIN**

"Those who do not know the way to the sea should choose a river for their guide". It is but an extremely small fraction of the world's inhabitants who do have the good fortune and privilege of being eye-witnesses to the hideous monstrosities which wars—either ancient or modern—inflict.

Only words, however picturesque they may be, are not powerful enough to create that indelible impression upon the minds of a people. Whether they be the outflow of the imaginative and creative minds of the poets or the profound thoughts of the philosophers, mere worlds are but tinkling cymbals when compared with the actual colourful pictures which man's eyes are made to see from time to time. The Topical Film does carry the desired effect. Dante's "Inferno" Milton's "Paradise Lost" Bunyan's "Pilgrim Progress" have not succeeded to any appreciable extent in bringing to the minds of even the most orthodox religionists a full realisation of the conditions they endeavoured to portray. Literature and history are but the weaker supplements. The Press, the Wireless, though powerful in themselves, are still adjuncts in disseminating knowledge of war conditions.

Seeing is believing. Man is essentially an emotional being. His emotion attains its highest tension when the string of his eye-gate is touched. The Film, therefore, which affects the sense of vision is the most effective instrumen tof knowledge—particularly that relating to the faculty of Memory.

The War Propaganda Film, as depicted on the screens to-day, is a Friend of To-morrow.

"All seems infected to the infected spy,
As all seems yellow to the jaundiced eye."

### THE FILM WARNS US!

Fire is the best of servants, but it is also the worst of masters. Fire remains fire, but its functions change according to the use to which it is put. Similarly in the case of the Topical Film. It is facultative in that it may be the worst enemy but it can be and is intended to be the best of friends. It is the best and everlasting friend of to-morrow. Its voice of warning and admonition will resound into the dimmest, darkest and most distant future. It is only by perversion that it may be converted into an enemy.

Every picture portrays at least two aspects of one story. It may be the criminal as opposed to the keen detective; the notorious villain and opposite to him is the sublime hero. There may be a few to whom villainy and criminality may appeal, but it is the sublimity and keeness of the hero that generally go with the major part of the audience. In fact, that is the intention of the producer and is the principal feature of the film.

When we look at a War Propaganda Film, we may view it from the point of the ally or the foe. In most cases there is awakened in our minds a spirit of admiration for the ally and hate against the enemy. But whether we be foe or friend, the essential and redeeming feature of the picture remains. Destructions, disasters and deaths; the crumbling down of the most delicate structures and fabrics of civilisation and unspeakable sufferings in all shades and hues are thrown before our very eyes.

What man is there who, with a human soul within his bosom, can voluntarily and cheerfully contribute to a state of affairs which would tend to a repetition of such calamities and catostrophies.

Man needs to be reminded of the calamitous effects of war regularly and systematically. He needs to be shown, as vividly as possible, the satanic ruins and evils of wars from time to time. And what can serve this purpose better than his friend the film. Every nation would do well to preserve the Topical films of to-day in its most secret archives and produce them to posterity as golden texts for the guidance of the future. Human friends may come and go. Words full of poetical ecstasy and emotions may give musical sounds in man's ear, but the film will live and go on forever. The accuracy of the camera and the vividness of the screen must be made to serve their purpose—the purpose of the sincere and immortal Friend of To-morrow.

### AN 'IF' OF HISTORY

Why should we fear the film. That which we dread we attract. We should not think in terms of hatred and vengeance, but rather in terms of sympathy and life whenever we perceive through the films the pains which touch our filial cord. And even though films of to-day fail to move the more sublime and serene fibres of our nature, they can serve an alternate purpose. That of improvement in war technique and strategy. Do what we will wars cannot be avoided in this matter-of-fact world. Since that is a living fact, why not make the film a sincere friend to serve us in the other direction. Do an act and do it well. We begin to die from the day we are born. To die we must, then let us die well. War, there must be inspite of our preaching, then when we make it well. Those nations which sit in the sombre shade of peaceful philosophy will be over-run by the martial and powerful nations. Take the film and let it be our teacher. Let it help us like genuine friends to survive in this world of competition and rivalry.

Had Topical Films of the Great War I been shown with that dramatic colouring to the statesmen and organisers of this Great War II at their various leagues and conferences, their might have been a greater possibility of postponing if not entirely avoiding it. The faculty of reason and understanding combined with sympathy and love for the other nations' right to live in their freedom would have worked more miracle than lengthy speeches and platitudes.

A Friend of To-morrow; a most eloquent friend which can serve a dual purpose; a friend which can be of service to the militant and warring nations as well as the philosophic peoples whose ambition it is to avoid wars is the Topical Film of to-day.

## Is It A Danger To Future Peace?

**By A. MADHAVAN**

Mr. Eswar builds up a whole structure of arguments on certain premises which themselves do not stand sound analysis. Thus he begins by saying that the best friend of a nation cannot be a good internationalist. I will simply ask him whether Pandit Jawaharlal is a good nationalist and a good internationalist. The whole problem is the type of nationalism a nation represents. If it is the aggressive type as that of Nazi Germany or Imperialist Japan then his arguments hold good. But if it is the nationalism of a colonial country like India, it is a progressive force and can accommodate within, the ideas of internationalism as well. If it is the progressive nationalism of the Soviet Union which respects the national rights and aspirations of a neighbouring nation, then it can in no way come between the nation and feelings of international solidarity. As a matter of fact, nationalism when it is aggressive acts as a reactionary force and when it is used to strengthen the cultural bonds of a people, acts as a progressive force.

The idea of an ethnographically and geographically separated nation has ceased to influence men's affairs for a long time. Even the Nazis, the Fascists as well as the Japanese Imperialists have had to resort to other arguments, e.g., racialism to propagate their imperialist aims. And if it is so in the case of nations which have tried to use nationalism to its utmost advantage, it cannot be otherwise in the future.

### CLASH OF INTERESTS, NOT FEELINGS

Mr. Eswan states that war is the result of strained feelings between nations. This is, in my opinion, a very superficial estimate of the cause of wars. Wars are the result of clash of interests between rival nations. Feelings play perhaps the smallest part in this. I may easily prove this by referring to the tension between Britain and America, and Britain and France before the beginning of this war. Their relations were none-too-cordial at the Peace Conferences. On the contrary, some of these countries were pro-German on such occasions. But when it came to a question of actual fighting, the division of forces was made on entirely different basis. Wars have been predicted with alarming accuracy by keen observers when the relations between the future antagonistic nations were extremely friendly. War is an attempt to save the face of a dying economic system by resort to brute force. The causes of this war are based on more solid facts than the personal enmity of Churchill towards Hitler.

The state of mind that keeps up a war is the tempo of an attacking nation to attack and an attacked nation to resist. Hate does play a very important part, but it is not the hate of all that is good in the opposing action. Hate is only a transposed form of the love of one's fatherland.

Coming to the concrete question of topical films, I find Mr. Eswan has got a very vague idea of what happens to them when war is over. One would never think of seeing a film like "Commandoes Strike At Dawn" or "Chetniks" ten years after the war is over. Further, films like "CHETNIKS" are definitely dangerous, since they try to boost people who are anti-national in their actions. Mihailovich is definitely anti-national and a film like "Chetniks" must be banned. But a film like "China" is definitely progressive as it shows the unity of interests of the Allied Nations. Similarly "Commandoes Strike At Dawn" is a very progressive film in that respect.

A word about using these films after this war is over. Why not try to show them in countries against which they have been prepared? Thus anti-British films must be shown in Bri-German films in Germany. This will tain and the Empire (?) and anti-make people see themselves as others see them to-day. I think this will have a sobering effect on the minds of many who think themselves to be frighteous and all others as unjust. Of course, the utility of these films after the war must form the subject of discussion among all peace loving people. The fear expressed by your contributor about self-seeking politicians using these films for personal ends is only just. But the best guarantee against that is not the complete destruction of these films, but the complete destruction of self-seeking politicians, in other words, it is by making the people more conscious and avoiding the pitfall of their being led by the nose. A better understanding of the world in which we live and the conditions precedent to the establishment of a just and equitable society is a better guarantee than the physical destruction of things.

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# Second Front Guns Await ZERO HOUR!

"INVASION CITY"—SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND:—"Long Toms" being put into shape by American soldier-technicians so that they may be delivered to various artillery units in the field upon the opening of the Second Front.

ROMMEL PREPARES—Since his appointment by Hitler as Anti-Invasion Chief Of Western Europe Rommel is inspecting defences

EISENHOWER KEEPS HIS SECRET—Commander of the Invasion Forces studies the map of Europe and keeps Rommel guessing *Photos: USOWI*

# AN AMAZING NEWSPAPER

By GEORGE KENT

**"La Prensa", of Buenos Aires regards itself not merely as a newspaper but as an institution with a solemn duty to do everything in its power to help the people of Argentina.**

**If you are ill you can be treated at "La Prensa's" clinic by the country's ablest physicians—and pay nothing. "La Prensa's" dentists will pull, fill or bridge your teeth, again at no cost. If you are in legal trouble "La Prensa" lawyers will advise you and, if you are poor, fight your case. These services are not tricks to build up circulation. Everyone is welcome, whether he buys the paper or not.**

**If you are a farmer "La Prensa" will analyze your soil or tell you what to do for an ailing animal. If your children have musical ability "La Prensa's" conservatory of music will teach them gratis, and if they are highly gifted will finance their further study abroad. "La Prensa" also runs a public library, a lecture hall free to virtually any group that wishes to use it, and a laboratory to which any shopper can send a product for analysis.**

**All these activities are incidental to publishing one of the world's truly great newspapers. The founder of "La Prensa" was the late Jose Clemente Paz. The first issue, appearing in 1869 laid down its guiding principles: Truth; Honour; Freedom; Progress; Civilization.**

## A Market Place

The newspaper grew steadily in size and importance. When immigrants began pouring into Argentina to work in the wheat fields, "La Prensa" offered itself as a mailing address. To this day many persons use it as their general-delivery window.

"La Prensa" editorials are prepared with all the care of a lawyer presenting a case to the Supreme Court; but they're tough, fighting editorials. There's a saying in Buenos Aires that when "La Prensa" attacks, governments fall. In large measure this is true, although the process sometimes takes time. A case in point is the recent Castillo regime, which "La Prensa" steadfastly opposed.

## Crack Shots

At one time or another, attempting to influence its policies, governments, large corporations, special interests have wheedled and tried bribery and resorted to force—to no avail. Nazi groups not long ago tossed bombs through its iron gates. Machine guns have rattled slugs through the windows. Once an organized mob became so threatening that the publishers charged the patio with electricity and flooded it with water, so that anyone setting foot inside would be severely shocked. There's a 'salle d'armes' in the building where editors perfect themselves in the use of the 'epee' and sabre. Ezequiel Paz, the present director, is himself a crack shot.

The newspaper goes to great extremes to keep clear of outside influence. Not a penny of its vast funds is invested in commercial or industrial securities. Don Ezequiel accepts no invitations to political or diplomatic gatherings, lest he incur obligations hampering the paper's freedom. "La Prensa" will accept no government advertising. It takes no electioneering ads, on the ground that the practice favours the candidate with the fattest purse.

Even those who hate "La Prensa" respect it. This attitude helps explain the reluctance of the authorities to impose censorship on it. The late Castillo regime suppressed several newspapers; but "La Prensa", lambasting the government harder than any of the others, was left strictly alone.

It was an alert "La Prensa" editor who asked the "United Press" in Berlin to interview a certain obscure German mathematician. The man was Albert Einstein, and "La Prensa" thus was responsible for focusing world attention on his theory of relativity.

## Sedate Way

"La Prensa" editors sit on hand-tooled leather chairs in hushed offices and until recently wrote their material in longhand. Except for the stutter of teletypes, the quiet of the central newsroom is in striking contrast to the bustle of a newspaper office in the United States. Yet when a big story breaks, "La Prensa" editors spring to life. One of them sent aeroplanes which obtained the first photographs of the battle with the "Graf Spee." When Sir Ernest Shackleton, Antartic explorer, was lost, "La Prensa" organized an expedition to speed to his rescue. On election day the reports become watchers at the polls, as a guarantee of the honesty of the vote casting.

When the story is of world importance, a siren atop the building lets go in a deafening howl. It brings people running from stores and offices to the sedate bulletin board on the ground floor. They come in numbers sufficient to stop traffic on Buenos Aires' broad Avenida de Mayo.

In other Buenos Aires newspapers you will find plenty of smash headlines, stories reported in all their gruesome and succulent detail, but "La Prensa" goes its sedate way. Except for a box on the front page, containing only headlines, the first five to eight pages of the newspaper are solid with wants ads. The news columns follow, but you will find no headline taller than half an inch No signature appears above any news dispatch. Divorces are reported without elaboration. Suicides are set down as simple deaths. Even murders have been reported as a death under distressing circumstances.

Toward employees, "La Prensa" exercise a benevolent and patriarchal interest. When a man gets too old he stops working but goes right on drawing full pay. Only three persons have ever been fired.

The present director, Don Ezequiel, was born a few years after the paper was founded. In the lean early days he worked in the composing room, setting type and cranking the old flatbed press. Later he concentrated on editorial matters.

When the present home of "La Prensa" was built, it was the most magnificent structure in the city, for the founder considered journalism the highest type of public service and thought that the paper should have a home worthy of its importance. Once when a representative of the Vatican, visiting "La Prensa," remarked: "This seems rather luxurious for a newspaper," Don Jose replied blandly, "Isn't St. Peter's in Rome somewhat luxurious?"

The old man trained his son well. Each year he would go off to Europe, leaving the young man in charge, in the belief that the only way to learn to do a job was to do it. Don Ezequiel, now 72 years old, is a tall, well-groomed man extremely spry for his years. He has followed his father's custom of visiting Europe each year, leaving his nephew, Dr. Gainza Paz, in full charge.

Neither Don Jose nor Don Ezequiel ever visited the United States. But recently Dr. Gainza Paz, now co-director of "La Prensa" came—and promised he would return with his family for a prolonged visit. This is significant, for "La Prensa" has not always been a friend of the United States. Its owners have often disagreed with Washington policy. Some of the most scathing anti-United States editorials ever published have appeared in its columns.

In recent years, however, "La Prensa" has consistently supported the cause of hemisphere solidarity, attacked the Axis. "La Prensa" has a reputation of having shaped most of the foreign policies of Argentina.—"The Reader's Digest."

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